



Southwestern Division

Invited Ensembles

New York Polyphony



New York Polyphony is regarded as one of the finest vocal chamber ensembles in the world. The four men “sing with intelligence, subtlety and consummate artistry,” (*Richmond Times-Dispatch*) applying a distinctly modern touch to repertoire that ranges from austere medieval melodies to cutting-edge contemporary compositions. Their dedication to innovative programming, as well as a focus on rare and rediscovered works, has not only earned New York Polyphony critical acclaim and a devoted following but helped to move early music into the classical mainstream. New York Polyphony’s debut album, *I sing the birth*, was released in 2007.

New York Polyphony’s second album, *Tudor City*, spent three weeks in the top ten of Billboard’s classical album chart.

New York Polyphony released its third album, *endBeginning*, on BIS Records in early 2012. It was selected as one of the top ten notable classical music recordings of 2012 by the *New Yorker*.

New York Polyphony released its fourth album, *Times go by Turns*, which features Masses by Thomas Tallis and William Byrd, as well as an enigmatic three-voice Mass setting by medieval English composer John Plummer.

Since its founding in 2006, New York Polyphony has maintained an active performance schedule, touring exten-

sively and participating in major concert series and festivals throughout North America and Europe. Highlights includes Dallas Chamber Music Series; Miller Theatre at Columbia University Early Music Series; Ardee Baroque Festival (Ireland); Vendsyssel Festival (Denmark); Festival de Música de Morelia (Mexico); Elora Festival (Canada); and Choral at Cadogan Hall in London. They have been featured on *Performance Today* for American Public Media, *Footprints to Paradise: A Medieval Christmas* for Public Radio International, and BBC Radio 3’s *In Tune*.

Nathaniel Dett Chorale

The Nathaniel Dett Chorale will be a headliner for this conference. Their photo and bio can be found on page 109.

Brainerd Blyden-Taylor is the conductor of the Nathaniel Dett Chorale. His photo and bio can be found on page 110.

Pentatonix



Unaccompanied sensations and winners of season 3 of NBC’s *The Sing-Off*, Pentatonix are taking instrument-free music far beyond anyone’s wildest expectations. Named after the world’s most widely recognized five-note

musical scale, this vocal quintet has transformed one of pop music’s purest and most soulful expressions into an exciting future, filled with limitless sonic possibility.

Now six months removed from *The Sing-Off*, Pentatonix—who have all relocated to Los Angeles—have continued to build upon their already loyal fanbase, introducing a slew of new material via their YouTube channel, including covers of Gotye’s “Somebody That I Used To Know” and Fun’s “We Are Young.” The two videos—featured by Perez Hilton, *The Huffington Post*, RyanSeacrest.com, and *Nightline*—have eclipsed 8 million views. Their debut EP, *PTX Volume 1*, is a celebration of their musical diversity and sonic proof that the right five voices can effectively and expertly deliver a pop song. The EP includes 4 covers and two original songs. Pentatonix will be supporting *PTX Volume 1* on the road and online, as well as continuing to create new music, consistently testing any and every preconception of what unaccompanied music is and just how big it can be.

Arkansas Chamber Singers



The Arkansas Chamber Singers (ACS) is an auditioned vocal ensemble dedicated to enriching the lives of the people of Arkansas by performing and promoting the finest in classical choral repertoire. The ACS present a yearly subscription series at several venues in Little Rock and around the state. A new holiday tradition began in 2012 with the ACS singing a free concert series at the



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Arkansas Old State House Museum on the Arkansas River. Since 1980 the ensemble has commissioned works by noted composers Stephen Paulus, David Dickau, and Gwyneth Walker. The Arkansas Chamber Singers sang during both inaugural celebrations for President Bill Clinton and has performed with the Arkansas Symphony presenting many of the most important choral/orchestra repertoire. In May 2013, ACS presented Mozart's *Requiem* and will sing Verdi's *Requiem* and Haydn's *Theresien Mass* in 2014 with the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra.

John Erwin has served as the artistic director and conductor of the Arkansas Chamber Singers since 1999. Since



1975, he has been the director of choral activities at the University of Central Arkansas (UCA) conducting the award-winning UCA Concert Choir and UCA Chamber Singers. He has received the UCA Faculty Excellence Award, and in 2008 Erwin received the governor's award for Artist of the Year from the Arkansas Arts Council. Choirs under his direction have performed for two national ACDA Conferences, nine Southwestern ACDA Division Conferences, and seven Arkansas All-State Conferences. In addition, his choirs have sung for the national conventions of MENC and MTNA. The

Concert Choir won the Great American Choral Festival and was awarded two gold medals at the Riva del Garda International Choral Competition in Italy. In addition to conducting choral ensembles, Erwin teaches Choral Conducting and Graduate Choral Literature. For ten years he served as Southwestern ACDA Repertoire & Standards chair for college/university choirs. He has directed numerous all-region and all-state choirs.



Southwestern Division

Special Events

Beauty through Brokenness

An ecumenical service of song

Come worship with us as we explore "Beauty through Brokenness." Together we will acknowledge the brokenness of self, society, and relationships within the hope of reconciliation. You will hear Little Rock area choirs from St. James United Methodist Church, conducted by Tracy DePue; First United Methodist Church, conducted by Kyle Linson; and Exsul, conducted by Michael Ekbladh. Addi-

tionally, the renowned choral ensemble from Houston Baptist University, Schola Cantorum, conducted by John Yarrington, will be featured in the service.

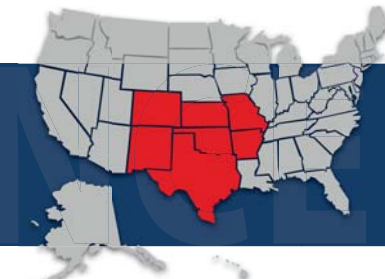
Choral selections will include; *Motherless Child*, arranged by Craig Hella Johnson, Melissa Givens, soloist; *For the Sake of Our Children*, Jeffery Ames; and a commissioned piece from Exsul by composer Daniel Gawthrop.

Terry York, Professor of Christian Ministry and Church Music at Baylor University's Truett Seminary will write and present interpretations of each theme and section of the service.

Houston Baptist University Schola Cantorum



Schola Cantorum is the most advanced choir in the Houston Baptist University School of Music. They have been privileged to have sung in weeklong residencies with Alice Parker, Dan For-



rest, James Jordan, Daniel Gawthrop, and Morten Lauridsen. Of his residency with this choir, composer Morten Lauridsen wrote: "this was among the finest, both on a college and professional level. Their sense of pitch, vocal color, and interpretation of the music is very high." This year's choir of forty-five highly selected voices continues the tradition.



John Yarrington is director of the school of music and chair of choral studies at the Houston Baptist University (HBU). Additionally, he is director

of the Chancel Choir at the First Presbyterian Church of Houston. He founded the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra Chorus. He was also artistic director of the Arkansas Chamber Singers.

After graduating from the University of Oklahoma with a BME, Yarrington completed his MSM at the Union Theological Seminary in New York City, and DMA from the University of Oklahoma.

His published choral compositions are with Augsburg-Fortress, Choristers Guild, Abingdon Press, MorningStar and GIA. Published books include *Building the Youth Choir*, *Somebody's Got My Robe*, *Somebody's Got My Hymnal*, *Choir Crack-ups*, and *Have We Had This Conversation*.

Yarrington has served as Southwestern ACDA Division president. He has been a featured conductor for numerous honor choruses and all-state events. His workshop schedule takes him throughout the United States and Canada. For the past three summers, Yarrington has served as chorus master for the Classical Music Festival held for two weeks in Eisenstadt, Austria, where he prepared choruses to sing with professional orchestra in the Esterhazy Palace. At HBU, his choirs have distinguished themselves for their artistry and

range of literature.

St. James United Methodist Church Chancel Choir

The Chancel Choir sings each Sunday during the traditional worship service at St. James United Methodist Church, Little Rock. In addition, it provides music for seasonal services throughout the year. Each December, their Carols & Candles concert features works with professional orchestra. All of the singers are volunteers. The choir had the privilege, in this past year, of singing for the Installation Service for the new bishop and for the commissioning service of the Arkansas United Methodist Conference.



Tracy DePue joined the staff of St. James United Methodist Church in Little Rock as the director of music, worship, and the arts in July 2010

after serving as director of music at Grace Presbyterian Church in Plano, Texas, for almost nineteen years. She earned a BM in piano performance from Maryville College in Tennessee and an MM in choral conducting from the University of Houston. DePue directed the youth choirs at the 2007 Montreat Worship and Music Conference, served as youth choir clinician at the PAM West Albuquerque Conference, the Dallas Mid-Winter Workshop, and the 2011 Mo-Ranch/PAM Music and Worship Conference. Her work as a handbell clinician has led her to teach seminars at Perkins' Church Music Summer School Certification Program, Montreat Worship & Music Conference, the 2010 Baylor Alleluia, and the 2011 Handbell

Musicians of America National Seminar. Her passion for congregational singing has been developed as a Melodious Accord Fellow—earned through attending two weeklong song-leading workshops taught by Alice Parker.

Exsul

Exsul was founded in January of 2013. The members seek to excel in choral music by advancing their technical skills through recording experiences in all styles and genres. By developing partnerships with schools, religious institutions and other community organizations, they strive to train singers of all backgrounds so they may be better equipped and encouraged to participate in choral ensembles across Little Rock and the state of Arkansas.



Michael E. Ekbladh has served numerous choirs in Texas, Illinois, and Arkansas. He holds an MM in conducting from Texas Christian University

and pursued a MSM from Southern Methodist University. Ekbladh currently serves as director of choirs for Pulaski Technical College and is founder and artistic director for Exsul Choir in Little Rock, Arkansas. He also serves as president of the Arkansas Chapter of the Fellowship of United Methodists in Music and Worship Arts, and Ekbladh has served as copyright, license, and royalty administrator for Choristers Guild.

Ekbladh has been a conductor, clinician, or instructor for such organizations as the Texas Conference Choir Clinic, Southern Methodist University, music conferences, and churches of all denominations. Under Ekbladh's direction, his



Southwestern Division

Special Events

choirs have been invited to sing at Wesley's Chapel (London), Trinity Church (Stratford-upon-Avon), York Minster Cathedral (York), St. Giles Cathedral (Edinburgh), St. Patrick's Cathedral (New York City) and the International Church Music Festival.

Ekbladh has also worked with such composers, conductors, and text writers as Jane Marshall, John Thornburg, Shirley Erena Murray, John Leavitt, Paul Leddington Wright, Constantina Tsolainou, John Giordano, Ronald Shirey, William Gorham, and C. Michael Hawn.

Memberships and affiliations include Choristers Guild, ACDA, the Fellowship of United Methodists in Music and Worship Arts, and the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers.

First United Methodist Church

At press time there was no information available for this choir.



R. Kyle Linson is director of music and worship arts at First United Methodist Church in Little Rock, Arkansas. Linson completed his

undergraduate work at Arkansas State University and did graduate studies in choral music education under Al Skoog. Linson taught public school in Sikeston, Missouri, before going into full-time church ministry. He has served at Fisher, St. Harrisburg, and Sikeston United Methodist churches before he landed at St. John's UMC in Memphis, Tennessee, for seventeen years. While at St. John's, the music ministry was asked to sing for two annual conferences, installation service for Bishop Dick Wills, and recorded two CDs. The Chancel Choir

also premiered Morton Lauridsen's *Lux Aeterna* in Carnegie Hall under the direction of Tim Sharp. Linson also started the "Concert of Love," which brought several UMC Choirs together to sing for the Church Health Center and raise money for its mission to give health care to those who do not have or cannot afford benefits.

Linson served at Central UMC in Kansas City Missouri and taught a private voice studio of twenty students with twelve all-state choir members named in those years. Currently he is at First UMC of Little Rock in his first year and loving being back in the south. Linson has been a judge and clinician in Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, and Tennessee. He is a member of ACDA and FUMMWA.

Harry Wooten



Harry Wooten is minister of music at Royal Lane Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas. A native of Arkansas, Wooten holds degrees from William Jewell College, Vienna International Music Conservatory, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

He has served churches in Tennessee and Alabama as minister of music and appeared as guest soloist, conductor, and presenter for numerous workshops and music events. His choirs have participated in the International Church Music Festival (Coventry Cathedral 1994 and 2000 and Bern, Switzerland, 1997) and the Manhattan Festival of Sacred Music 2001.

Additionally, since 2003 he has been the conductor/artistic director of the Irving Chorale in Irving, Texas. The chorale is a resident arts group of the Irving Arts

Center. In addition to an annual season of four concerts, they sing for many civic and community events. Recent travel opportunities have taken the Chorale to Italy, Ireland, and Switzerland; and this past December they were part of a KI Concert in Barcelona under the direction of Craig Hella Johnson.

Terry W. York



Terry W. York is professor of christian ministry and church music at Baylor University's George W. Truett Theological Seminary. He joined

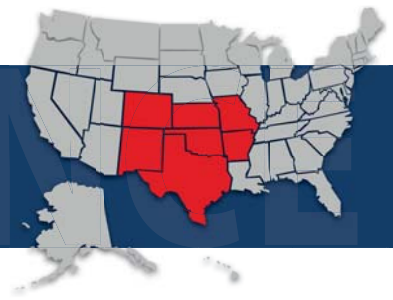
the faculty in 1998 after serving three years as the associate pastor of Park Cities Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas. He received a BA from California Baptist University and an MCM and DMA from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

He has been minister of music in churches in California and Arizona. From 1984 to 1995 he served at the Baptist Sunday School Board (now LifeWay Christian Resources) in Nashville, Tennessee. His duties there included project coordinator for *the Baptist Hymnal* (1991). In all, York has published more than forty hymns, including the well-known *Worthy of Worship*. In addition to his hymns, York has published more than sixty choral anthem texts set by composers such as Bob Burroughs, David Danner, Tom Fettke, Benjamin Harlan, Mary McDonald, Earlene Rentz, David Schwoebel, Joseph Martin, Vicki Hancock Wright, and Taylor Scott Davis.

In June 2008 it was his privilege to be one of two featured plenary speakers at the World Association of Chinese Church Musicians' biannual conference,

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which met in Kuching, Malaysia. In June 2009, the Baptist Church Music Conference, gave York the W. Hines Sims Award.

Robert Lindley

Robert Lindley is the organist/associate director of music at St. James UMC in Little Rock, Arkansas, where he has



served since 2003. He also served for eight years as the accompanist for Arkansas Chamber Singers. In addition to serving as organist, Lindley directs the three youth handbell choirs who tour annually each summer. He came to Little Rock from Brentwood UMC in Brentwood, Tennessee, and has served in other churches in

Virginia Beach, Virginia; Pine Bluff, Arkansas; and Austin, Texas. He received two degrees in organ from the University of Texas at Austin.



Southwestern Division Performing Choirs

Allegro Conspirare Youth Choirs



Founded in 2005 as an educational outreach program of the five-time Grammy-nominated ensemble Conspirare, the Conspirare Youth Choirs (CYC) have grown from one ensemble of thirty-eight founding members to two ensembles of over one hundred singers.

CYC singers have performed throughout Austin in several prominent community events, including collaborations with the Austin Lyric Opera (*Han-*

sel and Gretel, La Boheme), Ballet Austin and the Austin Symphony (*Carmina Burana*), and Austin's La Follia Baroque (Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater*). The singer's favorite was a nationally televised performance for Austin City Limits with the Oscar-winning band Swell Season! Tours have included Washington DC and the Pacific Rim Children's Choir Festival in Hawaii.

CYC is committed to providing a nurturing and joyful environment for singers to experience the highest-quality artistry through repertoire, solid vocal technique, and thorough music theory instruction.



Nina Revering grew up in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and Toronto, Canada, performing in the Coro Infantil do Teatro Municipal under the direction of Elza Lakschevitz and in the renowned

Toronto Children's Chorus under Jean Ashworth-Bartle.

She studied in Baroque Recorder with John Tyson of the New England Conservatory and performed with the Tanglewood Festival Chorus under conductors Seiji Ozawa and John Williams while completing her studies at Boston University.

Revering is featured on several recordings and CDs, beginning with the first record of the Toronto Children's Chorus, *In Dulci Jubilo*, Mahler *Symphony no. 2* with the Boston Symphony, Phillips label, and the first four Harmonia Mundi compact discs recorded by the five-time Grammy-nominated Conspirare; she has been a featured soloist on many concerts and recordings under Craig Hella Johnson.

Nina Revering has taught music in the elementary classroom since 1998 in a public school in the Austin, Texas, area.



Southwestern Division

Performing Choirs

Atascocita High School A Cappella Choir



The Atascocita High School (AHS) choir program fields nine large performing ensembles. The A Cappella choir is representative of the premier student musicians from the choirs of Atascocita. The seventy-seven members of this ensemble are selected by audition and come from all walks of student life at AHS. All members of the A Cappella choir audition for the region choir in the fall and participate in UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest in the spring. The A Cappella choir performs as the Varsity Mixed, Varsity Women and Varsity Men at the annual UIL Concert & Sight-reading Contest and has received consistent Sweepstakes ratings since the school opened in 2006. These student leaders represent Atascocita's brightest and best. We are honored and proud to perform for the membership of the Southwestern ACDA.



Joe Weir has been teaching choir in the Humble Independent School District for the past thirty years. He started his teaching career at Atascocita Middle School in 1984. In the fall of 1991, Weir transferred to Humble High School (HHS), where he served

as the associate director for twelve years and as the department chairman for three years. While teaching at HHS, his Madrigal Singers were selected to perform at the 2001 TMEA Clinic/Convention and the 2002 Southwestern ACDA Division Conference. In 2006, Weir transferred to Atascocita High School, where he proudly serves as the department chair of the largest music program in the school district.

Weir has been a member of TMEA since 1985 and began his long line of service to the organization in 1994 as the Region 19 vocal division vice chair. He has served TMEA in some capacity every year since 1994, including his recent term on the executive board as the vocal division vice-president and current position as president. In addition to teaching, Weir currently serves as director of music for Atascocita Presbyterian Church.

Weir earned his BME from the University of North Texas and his MM in choral conducting from the University of Houston. His professional affiliations include ACDA, TCDA, TMAA, TMEA, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia.

Bethel College Concert Choir



As it has for generations, the Bethel College Concert Choir fosters a deep sense of connectedness among singers and audiences through excellent

performances of choral music. Today, the Bethel College Concert Choir represents the college through a vigorous concert schedule that includes campus performances, concerts in local venues, and an annual multi-state tour. Keeping with a tradition established in 1978, the Bethel College Concert Choir also tours internationally and has sung concerts in Canada, Germany, Poland, Switzerland, Austria, Bosnia, France, Belgium, Sweden and Norway, with television performances in Bosnia and Poland.

The Bethel College Concert Choir has been lauded for its musical excellence. In 2010 the choir received an Emmy for the choral soundtrack of the movie documentary *Through the Desert Goes Our Journey*.

Each spring, the Concert Choir joins with all collegiate singers, members of the Newton community, and the Bethel College Oratorio Orchestra in a Choral Masterworks Concert. Recent works include: Orff's *Carmina Burana*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Haydn's *Harmoniemesse*, Vaughan Williams's *Dona Nobis Pacem*, Mozart's *Requiem*, Stravinsky's *Symphony of Psalms*, Poulenc's *Gloria*, Brahms's *German Requiem*, Bach's *Magnificat*, and Verdi's *Requiem*.

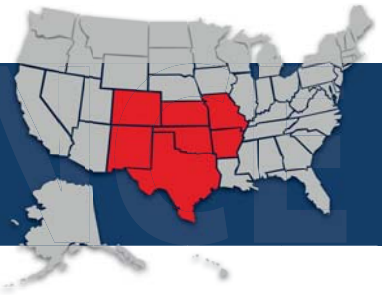


William Eash is in his fifteenth year at Bethel College, where he is professor of music and director of choral activities and conductor of the Emmy Award-winning Bethel College Concert Choir.

Eash is a recipient of the 2010 Award for Teaching Excellence at Bethel College. He also received the 1996 Award for Teaching Excellence at Newman University, where in 1997 he was also named the Ablah Faculty Mentor. He

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holds an MM and DMA in choral conducting from the University of Iowa.

In addition to the Concert Choir, Eash conducts the Men's Ensemble, Women's Chorus, and musical productions and teaches conducting and a freshman course, College Issues Colloquy. In January of 2012, he developed and led a month-long Interterm trip to South Africa and Lesotho, where students experienced village life and worked in plant research.

A native of Ohio, Eash graduated with a music performance degree from Bluffton (OH) University, followed by vocal study at the Hochschule für Musik und darstellende Kunst in Vienna, Austria. As a church musician, he has been director of music in Presbyterian and Methodist churches and currently leads the fifty-voice choir of the Bethel College Mennonite Church.

Friends University Jazz Vocal Ensemble



The Friends University Jazz Vocal Ensemble (JVE) was founded in 2009. Now in its fifth year, the group has quickly established a reputation for excellence. Performing a wide range of vocal jazz literature, membership in the ensemble is selected by audition from

Friends University students. It is one of five choral ensembles at the university

and part of a comprehensive vocal program that includes music theatre and

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Southwestern Division

Performing Choirs

opera productions, choral-orchestral masterworks, and national and international tours. The ensemble was honored to perform at the 2012 Kansas MEA Conference and the 2013 Jazz Education Network Conference in Atlanta. This is the ensemble's first appearance at an ACDA conference.



Craig Curry serves as the director of JVE, the Friends University Jazz Vocal Ensemble. As adjunct faculty, he has also taught courses in vocal

jazz improvisation and choral arranging. A widely published choral composer and arranger, Curry's works are regularly performed in schools, churches, and concert halls throughout the United States and abroad. An accomplished pianist, he has also published numerous collections of sacred arrangements for piano and released seven CDs of his published piano arrangements. He holds a BM in piano performance from the Wheaton College Conservatory of Music and an MM in media writing and production from the University of Miami.

Harpool Middle School Kantorei



Kantorei, the premier ensemble in the Harpool Middle School (HMS) Choral Department, is comprised

of fifty-seven auditioned students in grades 7–8. Membership is based on leadership, musical ability, dedication, and service. Students in Kantorei are well rounded and active in the school and community. Among this group are solo and ensemble award winners, all-region choir members, individual and district champions in academics, athletics, and fine arts, and participants in nearly every athletic event and organization on campus. HMS Kantorei is a consistent recipient of superior ratings at regional and state contests and is frequently named Best in Class in choral competitions throughout Texas.



Nathan Dame is director of choral activities at Harpool Middle School. He holds a BME from the University of

Kansas and an MME from Texas Woman's University. Under his direction, the Harpool Choral Department has grown from a new program of sixty students to include four hundred students in ten performing choirs. Honors include Best in Class and Grand Champion Awards in statewide choral competitions in Houston, Galveston, San Antonio, and Dallas-Fort Worth. He serves as TMEA Region 2 MS/JH Vocal Chair and has been featured at the National Conference on MS/JH Choral Music and the Texas and Kansas MEA conventions. He is a published author in the *Choral Journal*, *Southwestern Musician*, *Texas Music Education Research*, *Kansas Music Review*, and *RBC Publications*.



Ashley Delaney is associate director of choirs at Harpool Middle School. Prior to coming to Harpool, she served as

associate director at Blalack Middle School in Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD. While at Blalack, Delaney conducted the one hundred-voice Boys Choir and served as co-conductor of the Varsity Men's Chorus, named 2012 TMEA State Honor Choir and ACDA Cambiata Institute Invitational Choir. She holds a BME from Mississippi College and MME from Texas Woman's University. In 2012 she received an Award of Teaching Excellence from CFB-ISD and received the 2013 TCDA Young Director of Distinction Award. She currently serves as TMEA Region 2 Middle School Treasurer and has been a TMEA research presenter and invited clinician.

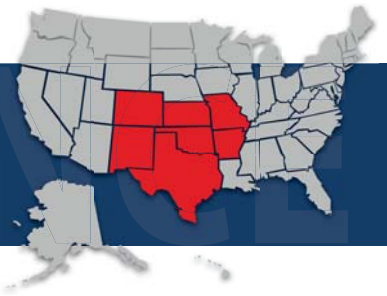
Liberty High School Men's Choir



The Men's Choir of Liberty Senior High School, Liberty, Missouri, is comprised of the male singers from the auditioned Concert Choir. This group performs every year as the Men's Choir at the Missouri State High School Association Large Group Contest and has received consecutive superior ratings in performance and the sight-reading event. These dedicated young men are also honor students, band and orchestra members, athletes, actors, speech and debaters, and artists—sharing a common love of singing. The Liberty High School Men's Choir is honored to have the opportunity to perform for the

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2014 Southwest ACDA Conference.



Rika R. Heruth is enjoying her ninth year as director of choral music at Liberty High School. Heruth has dedicated twenty-nine years to teaching choral music and has held positions in Missouri, Kansas, New York, and Minnesota. She received her BM in vocal music education and piano performance from Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Her MM and DMA in choral conducting are from the UMKC Conservatory of Music. Under Heruth's direction, the Liberty High School Chamber Choir has performed at the 2009 Missouri MEA Convention, the 2010 Southwestern ACDA Conference in Denver, and at last year's MMEA seventy-fifth anniversary celebratory convention.

Norman North High School Ladies of Chorale



The Norman North Chorale Women have established a tradition of musical excellence and national recognition in its fifteen years under the direction of Tony Gonzalez. It has earned fifteen consecutive State Sweepstakes Awards, won major festivals in Dallas, San Antonio, Houston, New Orleans, Chicago,

San Diego, Washington DC, New York City, and at Festival Disney. The Women of Chorale have made a record seven appearances as an OMEA Honor Choir. This is their first appearance as a performing choir at a Southwestern ACDA Division Conference.



Tony Gonzalez is currently in his seventeenth year at Norman North High School, where he supervises and conducts two mixed choirs, four women's choirs, two men's choirs, a chamber choir, and a jazz choir. Before his assignment at Norman North, he served as choir director at Central Mid High School in Norman for eleven years. Gonzalez attended Del Mar College in Corpus Christi, Texas, where he studied with Ron Shirey. He earned his BME at Texas A & I University in Kingsville. He received an MME from the University of Oklahoma and has completed course work toward his DMA in choral conducting.

Gonzalez is past president of the Southern Division of the Oklahoma Chapter of NATS and OCDA. He has served on the board of the Norman Arts Council and the University of Oklahoma Opera Guild. He has served as the Southwestern ACDA Division Repertoire & Standards chair for high school choirs, OCDA Repertoire & Standards chair for vocal jazz, and as OCDA all-state jazz coordinator.

Gonzalez's choirs have performed for state, regional, and national conventions of OMEA, OCDA, and ACDA. He has served as adjudicator and guest conductor throughout the Southwest. His voice students have won state and regional competitions of NATS.

Ouachita Baptist University Singers



Ouachita Singers, an auditioned choral ensemble of forty-six students, represents the Ouachita Baptist University Division of Music through concerts in schools and churches throughout Arkansas, the surrounding region, and around the world. Formed in 1957, the Ouachita Singers have a rich and varied history of outstanding choral performance.

Their membership includes primarily music majors from outstanding high school programs throughout Arkansas and the South and Southwest.

The choir has been selected to sing in divisional and state ACDA conferences and has collaborated with the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra on several occasions, most recently on Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* and Brahms's *Requiem*. Their recent travel activities have included two European tours (2006, 2010) and extensive concertizing throughout the United States. Their musical selections range from the masterworks of choral literature to music of contemporary composers and are available in a well-received series of compact disc recordings. Their latest CD *Sing Me to Heaven* was released last fall.



Gary Gerber is chair of the division of music, director of choral activities, and professor of music at Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. He directs Ouachita



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Performing Choirs

Singers and Concert Choir and teaches various conducting and choral methods classes. A native of Azle, Texas, Gerber holds a BM from Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas. He received two degrees from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, an MM in choral conducting in 1990, and a DMA in choral conducting in 1993.

Ouachita Singers under Gerber's direction was selected to sing at the 2011 Arkansas All-State Conference. He has taken this choir on numerous tours throughout the United States and overseas, most recently to Italy in 2010.

Gerber served as the Southwestern ACDA Division Repertoire & Standards chair for colleges and universities from 2006 to 2010, and as the coordinator of the Collegiate Honor Choir for the division from 2006 to 2012.

In addition to his academic teaching, Gerber has served as minister of music in several Southern Baptist churches. Gerber is active as a clinician in the public school and church music fields. He is a member of ACDA, Arkansas ACDA, TCDA, MENC, Arkansas MEA, Pi Kappa Lambda, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia.

Pearland High School Chamber Choir



The Pearland High Chamber Choir is the Varsity Mixed ensemble at Pearland High School. Students in grades 10–12 are eligible to audition and are

selected through a demonstration of excellent vocal ability and sight-reading. The Chamber Choir gives seasonal performances throughout the school year, including the annual "broadway nights" dessert theatre, Veteran's Day and Christmas concerts, the annual musical, and the end-of-year pop show. For UIL, the Chamber Choir is a consistent Sweepstakes recipient and also Best in Class winners in spring festivals. In 2013 the Chamber Choir was an invited choir at the TMEA Convention.



Derrick Bready is the head choral director at Pearland High School. He previously taught at J. Frank Dobie High School in Pasadena

ISD, where his choirs were consistent UIL sweepstakes and superior performing ensembles. While at Dobie, he co-produced the six-time Tommy Tune-nominated musical, *The Sound of Music*, which also won a Tommy Tune award for best musical direction and best orchestra.

The PHS Men's Choir performed at the 2010 Southwestern ACDA Division Conference in Denver, Colorado. They were also an invited performing choir at the 2011 TMEA Convention. Most recently, the Pearland High School Chamber Choir (Varsity Mixed Choir) performed as an invited performing choir at the 2013 TMEA Convention.

Bready graduated from the University of Texas at San Antonio with a BM and later received an MME from the University of Houston. He is also the MM at Memorial Baptist Church in Pasadena, Texas. In his free time, Bready is a self-proclaimed avid Walt Disney World traveler and enjoys performing in community musicals and choirs. He

hopes that as students graduate from his choral program they understand that excellence in everything is the key to success.

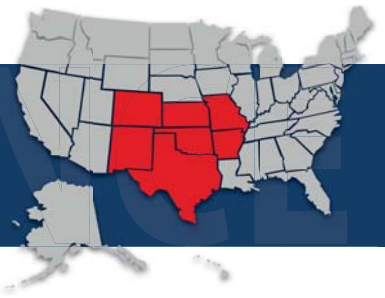
Plano West Senior High West Chorale



The West Chorale is one of five choral organizations at Plano West Senior High School, a junior-senior campus in Plano, a suburb of Dallas, Texas. The Chorale has been awarded consecutive sweepstakes and first division awards since the school opened fourteen years ago.

The students are academically strong in a challenging educational environment. In a school of 97 percent college-bound students, the Chorale has had a high percentage of students attend college in various music fields. The members of this choir are actively involved in the activities of the school, and most of the students study voice with private teachers. Almost all of the membership is enrolled in advanced placement and honors-level classes, and several are enrolled in college classes.

The choirs of Plano West have performed in venues in New York, Washington DC, Hollywood, San Francisco, Disneyworld, New Orleans, and several sites in the state of Texas. They have worked with outstanding clinicians such as Ken Fulton, Josh Habermann, Donald Neuen, Ron Staheli, Richard Sparks, David Childs, and Z. Randall Stroope.



Kathy Hackett is the director of choral music at Plano West Senior High School and the West Cluster Leader for Choral Music in Plano

Independent School District. Throughout her career, she has taught in Texas, Georgia, and Missouri.

Hackett is the vocal vice president of the Texas Music Adjudicators Association. Serving as a judge for regions throughout the state of Texas, she is also in demand as a clinician and conductor and has worked actively with choirs around the United States. She has presented workshops for TMEA and ACDA and served as a state organizer and section leader on several occasions for the Texas all-state choir and ACDA honor choir. Her choirs have performed for TMEA.



Sarah Council is in her first year as associate director of the Plano West Senior High School Choirs, having previously held the position of director of choirs at Shepton High School for seven years. Her choirs have received many honors, including a 2011 TMEA Invited Performing Choir, Best in Class, and Overall Outstanding at competitions across Texas, consistent sweepstakes awards, and many students placing in all-region and all-state choirs. Council is a 2006 graduate of Baylor University, has served as soprano section leader for the 2010 Texas All-State Mixed Choir, and has spent summers as a section leader for several all-state choir camps. She is a member of TMEA, TCDA, and ACDA.

River City Men's Chorus



River City Men's Chorus (RCMC) was founded in 2002 by thirty-five men who shared a passion for great male choral music. Since that time, under the direction of David Glaze, it quickly grew to sixty members. Bound not only by a love of great music but also by a camaraderie known to few groups, the men of the chorus work toward a common goal: cultural enrichment through the enjoyment of musical excellence.

RCMC is a volunteer organization with few professional musicians. Membership is by invitation and audition only, and they strive to maintain a diversity of repertoire and talent. RCMC has the enthusiastic support of a varied audience and a gifted board of directors and is a nonprofit organization with tax-exempt status. Not only has the chorus enjoyed such incredible community support from concert-goers, but they have been honored to perform in a number of prestigious venues for events such as the opening of the Clinton Presidential Library, the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, and singing for mass at St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City.

The tenth anniversary season in 2012 was commemorated with the board of director's commission of two works by Joseph M. Martin and Howard Helvey, both of which were debuted under the direction of the composers. The chorus is currently preparing for a second European tour in May 2014 that will include performance stops in Berlin, Prague, and Vienna.



David A. Glaze is currently in his thirtieth year as minister of music at Trinity United Methodist Church of Little Rock, Arkansas,

where he coordinates a graded choir program for children through adults. A graduate of Ouachita Baptist University, he received a BM in piano performance, BME in choral music, and an MME in choral music. He has performed with the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra (ASO), the ASO Chamber Orchestra (playing Poulenc's *Concerto for Organ*), and Ballet Arkansas (playing the Brahms's *Waltzes*). He is a past recipient of the Arkansas Federation of Music Club's Outstanding Church Musician of the Year award. He is the founding conductor and artistic director of the River City Men's Chorus. In addition to the programming, rehearsal, and presentation of the chorus in its eleven years of regular season concerts, the chorus recently performed on a tour of Italy, including mass at St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City, which was a career and personal highlight for Glaze.

Sam Houston State University Chorale



Chorale, the premiere choral ensemble at Sam Houston State University, consists of the top singers and musicians across the campus. The choir explores a wide variety of repertoire, including



Southwestern Division

Performing Choirs

Renaissance motets, baroque works, pieces by romantic masters such as Brahms and Bruckner, and contemporary compositions from America and Scandinavia. This nationally recognized ensemble has a rich heritage of choral excellence, including performances at the recent convention performances at the 2007 ACDA National Conference in Miami, 2010 Southwestern ACDA Division Conference in Denver, and the 2010 TMEA Convention. Within the last year, the SHSU Chorale has received invitations to perform at the Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston, South Carolina; at Duke Chapel in Durham, North Carolina; and to collaborate with ensembles such as the Bach Society Houston, Rice University Symphony Orchestra, Brazos Valley Orchestra, and Houston Masterworks Chorus.



James Franklin serves as the director of choral studies at Sam Houston State University (SHSU), where he conducts the SHSU

Chorale and Symphonic Choir; directs the graduate choral conducting program, and teaches undergraduate conducting. Additionally, Franklin serves as the artistic director and conductor for the Brazos Valley Chorale. An active singer, he has performed with many professional choirs, including Orpheus Chamber Singers, Bach Society Houston, Dallas Bach Society, and South Dakota Chorale. Recent recording projects include CDs with South Dakota Chorale (2011) and the Houston Bach Society (2010).

An active member of ACDA, IFCM, TMEA, and TCDA, he often serves as a clinician and adjudicator. He holds degrees from Baylor University and West-

minster Choir College and is currently completing a DMA at the University of North Texas.

Spire Chamber Ensemble



The Spire Chamber Ensemble was founded in 2010 as one of the only regional choral groups bringing together the best choral artists from around the United States and Canada to Kansas City, Missouri. Spire focuses on repertoire for voices and organ, new compositions, and period performances of rarely heard masterpieces. Spire has been fortunate enough to include members who also sing with Chanticleer, Conspirare, Seraphic Fire, Santa Fe Desert Chorale, and Trinity Wall Street.

Their repertoire includes: Lauridsen's *Lux Aeterna*, Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*, Durufle's *Requiem*, Bach's *St. John* and *St. Matthew Passions*, O'Regan's *Canticles*, Kodály's *Missa Brevis*, J.S. Bach's *B Minor Mass*, Rachmaninoff's *All-Night Vigil*, Handel's *Messiah*, and motets by Bruckner, Brahms, Allegri, Stanford, Gabriel Jackson, Jonathan Dove, Ola Gjeilo, and more.



Ben A. Spalding is the founder and artistic director of the Spire Chamber Ensemble, which is gaining a national

reputation for excellence in choral performances. He received undergraduate degrees from Emporia State University and master's degrees from Rowan University in conducting, where he was a student of renowned conductor and composer Z. Randall Stroope. Spalding is up and coming as a professional choral conductor, working with the best choral artists in the country and gaining a reputation as a fine interpreter of early and contemporary repertoire. In addition to his work with Spire, Spalding is director of music and the arts at Trinity Lutheran Church in Mission, Kansas, where he has built one of the most prestigious concert series and arts programs in the region.

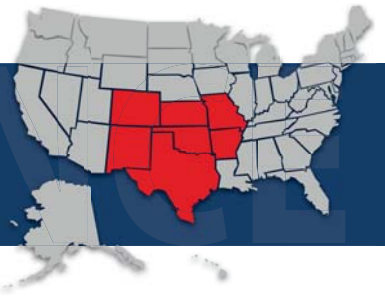
Texas Boys Choir



The Texas Boys Choir was founded in 1946 to provide any boy, regardless of socio economic or ethnic background, a structured environment for the development of a world-class performing choir of boys. Since its founding, the choir has performed for popes, presidents of the United States, and kings and heads of state. The Texas Boys Choir continues to earn its reputation as one of the premiere boy choirs in the world with multiple appearances on national

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television and radio broadcasts, numerous awards, including two Grammys and championship medals in World Games competition, more than forty professional recordings with Columbia, Decca, and other independent labels, and headlining at significant concert series as well as national and international conventions and festivals. The Choir performed at the 2004 Southwestern ACDA Division Conference.

S. Bryan Priddy assumed the position



Baptist Theological Seminary, and the Eastman School of Music. Previously, Priddy served as director of music at Peachtree Presbyterian Church in Atlanta, Georgia, and as director of choral activities at Whitworth University in

of artistic director of the Texas Boys Choir in August of 2008. He holds music degrees from Georgia State University, the Southern

Spokane, Washington, where he conducted the Whitworth Choir, one of the Northwest's premiere collegiate choral ensembles. His college and church choirs have performed at Northwestern and Southern divisional ACDA and MENC conventions. Under his direction, the Texas Boys Choir recently appeared at the 2013 National ACDA Conference in Dallas and the 2013 TCDA Conference in San Antonio. He serves currently as the Southwestern ACDA Division Repertoire & Standards chair for boychoirs.

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Southwestern Division

Performing Choirs

Webster University Chamber Singers



Webster University Chamber Singers is a select ensemble of twenty-two singers that performs advanced choral literature from all historical periods, many world cultures, and styles. Since 2010, the choir has collaborated with the University's Concert Choir to present a major choral masterwork each year. The Chamber Singers have presented a number of significant choral works themselves, including Vivaldi's *Gloria RV 588* and Britten's *Rejoice in the Lamb*. The ensemble represents the department of music at university and community functions throughout the St. Louis region. They have worked with the British professional vocal ensembles *Stile Antico* and *Voces8* in master classes and conductors Charlene Archibeque and Trey Jacobs through Webster-sponsored artist residencies. They performed at the Missouri MEA Conference in January 2013.



Trent Patterson is the director of choral studies and music education at Webster University. A veteran music educator with teaching

experience at the middle and high school levels in Florida and Iowa, Patterson received a BME from the Florida State University, an MA in choral conducting from San José State University, and a DMA in choral conducting from Michigan State University. At Webster, Patterson conducts the Chamber Singers, Concert Choir, teaches courses in music education philosophy, choral conducting, and literature, and advises undergraduate and graduate students in music education and choral conducting. He is in demand regionally and nationally as a guest conductor, workshop clinician, and adjudicator. Since 2011 he has served as the choral director at Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Webster Groves.

The Woodlands High School Varsity Treble Choir



The Woodlands High School (WHS) is one of five high schools in the Conroe Independent School District. TWHS serves approximately 4,200 students in four grades. Choral music at TWHS has a long tradition of excellence, and 2014 marks the second appearance for a choir from TWHS at a Southwestern ACDA Division Conference, each time under a different director. Students in TWHS choir participate in six different performing choirs, and enrollment in the choir program involves three varsity

choirs, a chamber choir, and two non-varsity treble choirs.

TWHS Varsity Treble choir is comprised of forty-eight singers grades 10–12. Together with the Varsity Boys, they also perform as the Varsity Mixed Choir. The Varsity Treble choir has been awarded sweepstakes ratings at UIL for seventeen consecutive years. In February 2013, many of the ladies in this choir performed an honor concert at the TMEA convention in San Antonio.

Additionally, ladies in this choir have performed many service activities within the community, such as Caroling for the Cure, which has raised several thousand dollars for breast cancer awareness to honor TWHS choir assistant Lynn Bull, who is a breast cancer survivor.

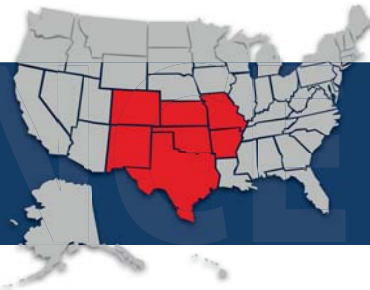


Bob Horton is in his twenty-fourth year of teaching. He is a graduate of Sam Houston State University (SHSU), later earning an MM with

an emphasis in conducting. Horton recently completed his doctorate in educational leadership from SHSU.

Horton is the head choir director of The Woodlands High School (TWHS). He leads a choral program of over 250 students who comprise six performing choirs over two campuses. Horton has been teaching at TWHS for the past nine years. Prior to this position, he taught at McCullough Junior High, York Junior High, and elementary music and intermediate Choir in Klein ISD.

Horton has had the privilege of serving the Region IX Junior High/Middle School division as its coordinator and has twice served as High School Region Vocal Chair. In this capacity, he has also hosted Region Choir Weekend, Region Choir auditions, Solo and En-



semble for his school district, and UIL contests. Horton has been fortunate to be invited as a region choir clinician for middle school/junior high school and high school, and UIL adjudication in different regions across the state. He also served a two-year term as the middle school/junior high vice president and president and past president of TCDA. In addition to Horton's school duties, he has served the Woodlands United Methodist Church for the past sixteen years as a music associate.



Lynn Bull is in her seventh year as assistant director at TWHS. She currently directs the ninth-grade women's choirs, codirects the

Varsity Women's Choir, and teaches music theory. In addition to her teaching responsibilities, Bull serves as accompanist for the varsity choirs.

Bull discovered her passion for choral music as a young singer at Clear Lake High School under the direction of Milton Pullen and Norris Blevins. She was a two-year member of the Texas All-State Choir. After receiving a BME and an MM in vocal performance from San Houston State University, Bull began her teaching career at Huntsville Jr. High and High Schools. She also codirected The Huntsville Children's Choir for several years. Bull has been a member of the voice faculty at Sam Houston State University, assistant choir director at Leander High School, and a private voice teacher at Sam Houston State University and several area high schools.

Bull also enjoys serving as a solo and ensemble adjudicator and clinician to area schools preparing for UIL. In 2013, TWHS Varsity Treble Choir, under the direction of Bob Horton and Bull, per-

formed for the Texas MEA.

University of Mary Hardin-Baylor Concert Choir



The Concert Choir is the premiere choral ensemble at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor. Open to all 3,400 students by audition, membership comprises undergraduates from a variety of disciplines, including music, Christian studies, nursing, business, sociology, and psychology. As ambassadors for the college, they perform literature from all historical periods with special emphasis on the great unaccompanied tradition. Annual concert tours have taken the choir from coast to coast. Under the direction of Michelle Roueché, this marks the ensemble's first appearance at an ACDA conference.



Michelle Roueché has served as the director of choral studies and professor of music at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor since

2010. Choirs under her direction have been invited performers for numerous Georgia MEA conventions and for two Southern ACDA Division conferences. An active clinician and choral arranger, Roueché is represented by Walton Music and Treble Clef Music Press. Her

compositions have been featured at several ACDA and all-state conventions and presented by choirs across the globe. She holds degrees from Texas Tech, the University of Illinois, and Arizona State University.

Young Junior High Men, Arlington, TX



The "Young Men" Varsity Tenor-Bass Choir is made up of approximately fifty-five students grades 7–8. Young Junior High is a two-year school, with an enrollment of approximately eight hundred students. The choir program contains around 285 students. Choirs at Young consistently earn superior ratings at UIL contests, and members garner numerous individual awards at city, region, and solo contests.

The strength of the choir program at Young can in part be attributed to the fine choral tradition in the Arlington ISD and the Martin High School Cluster. The tradition of choral excellence at Young has been built upon more than thirty years of leadership from former directors such as Toni Worley, Danny Detrick, and Linda Ice, along with extremely supportive administrators and parents!



Southwestern Division

Performing Choirs



Christi Jones is in her fourteenth year of teaching, thirteen of which have been at Young Junior High. She is a member of TMEA, TCDA, and

ACDA and assists with the music ministry at Lamar Baptist Church. In 2011 she was selected as Teacher of the Year, runner-up for the AISD AWARE award, and her mixed choir performed at the Middle School/Junior High National Conference.

Jones comes from a family of musicians. She was fortunate to have her mother as her choir director while at

Lamar High School and was selected for the TMEA All-State Choir. She went on to graduate from Wayland Baptist University.



Keith Daniel is in his fifth year of teaching choir at Young Junior High. Previously, he taught for two years at Martin High School. He is a

member of TMEA and TCDA, sings with the Arlington Master Chorale under the direction of Randy Jordan, and the TCC Community Chorus under the direction of Bobbie Douglass and Cherrie

Townsend.

Daniel went to Trinity High School in Euless, Texas. While there, he was selected for the TMEA All-State Choir. He graduated from the University of North Texas with a BME. While at North Texas, he was selected as the student representative for ACDA.



Southwestern Division

Interest Sessions

ACDA International Conductors Exchange Program Visiting International Conductor from China



Wang Jin is associate professor of choral conducting at Shanghai Normal University, Shanghai, China. The Southwestern Division will

host Professor Wang Jin in 2014.

A Place in the Choir, A Choir in the Place

What is the significance of church choirs in the cultural landscape of the community? What is the importance of good repertoire for their function as an aesthetic influence in the community? These and many other questions will be considered in this session for church musicians and conductors of groups using music with sacred texts from all periods and styles of music.

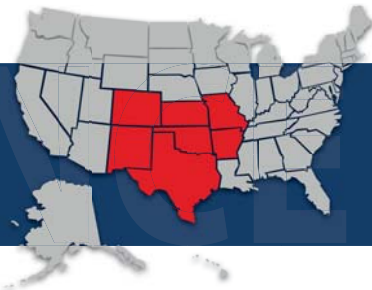
Charlotte Kroeker, executive director, came to Dallas from the University of Notre Dame, where she held a faculty research position in church music.



She is the author of *The Sounds of Our Offerings: Achieving Excellence in Church Music*, Alban Press, 2011, and editor of *Music in Christian*

Worship, Liturgical Press, 2005.

Kroeker is trained as a performing pianist and pedagogue, spending most of her career as a church-related college professor and administrator. Born and raised in the General Conference Mennonite Church, she has served as organist and/or choir director in Presbyterian, Episcopal, Catholic, Lutheran, and Methodist congregations, concurrent with her academic appointments. She has spent the last fifteen years



studying foundational issues for effective music in worship. In this process she has had grants from the Lilly Endowment, Louisville Institute, Wabash Center, Indiana Arts Commission, the University of Notre Dame, the Lilly Library at Indiana University, and private donors to fund research and convene conferences, workshops, and focus groups of university/seminary faculty, church musicians, pastors, and laypersons. Kroeker oversees program development and strategic planning for CMI.



Robert C. Mann is director of the Music Resource Library at the Church Music Institute and professor emeritus of Music at Stephen F.

Austin State University, Nacogdoches, Texas, where he taught undergraduate and graduate courses in organ, musicology, and church music. He has served churches for forty years as organist or organist-choirmaster and actively participated as recitalist in solo organ repertoire, organ duets, and music for two organs. He has been a workshop clinician for AGO chapters and church worship groups at the state, regional, and national levels. Scholarly publications are in the areas of the organ duet and Mendelssohn's organ music. He has traveled extensively in Europe playing and studying historic organs and is editor of two published historical organ compositions by Eugene Thayer and Gustav Merkel. Mann joined the Dallas AGO Chapter in 2006 and was elected to the Executive Committee in 2009. He is in charge of developing the online searchable resource database for CMI.

Before the Downbeat: Marking the Music Before Making Music

A thoughtful interpretation of music begins with a thoughtful study and effective marking of music. This session is a step-by-step approach to prepare a score for performance. Participants will be given a sample score and guided in the process of large, overall analysis moving to smaller sections and phrases.



Clell E. Wright serves on the faculty of Hardin-Simmons University (HSU) as director of choral activities and head of the department

of church music. He also holds the endowed Logsdon Chair of Church Music. In his responsibilities at HSU, Wright directs Concert Choir and oversees the choral program of the university, consisting of two choirs and two small vocal ensembles. Wright has served as an adjudicator and a choral clinician throughout the state and the region and has directed all-region honor choirs. He is also a frequent lecturer on music and worship and has presented clinics at TMEA, ACDA, and TCDA conventions. He holds degrees from Samford University, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and the University of Missouri, Kansas City, where he studied with Eph Ehly. In addition to his responsibilities at HSU, Wright serves as conductor and artistic director for the Abilene Chamber Singers and as director of music at First Central Presbyterian Church in Abilene, Texas.

Black Gospel Music: What it Was, What is and Who May Sing it

This session will take a brief look at the historical development of Black Gospel Music in America and its connection to the Negro spiritual. Consideration will be given to the stylistic and theological treatment of gospel songs over more than a century. The lecture/demonstration will highlight significant changes over this time period that affect its presence and accessibility as music for choral performance venues.



Uzee Brown, Jr., a native of Cowpens, South Carolina, is chair of the department of music at Morehouse College.

For twelve years he was director of the Ebenezer Baptist Church Choir. He enjoys a diverse career in music, and the combination of his professional activities as singer/performer, composer/arranger, educator, and choir director have taken him to more than seventeen countries. He led the Ebenezer Baptist Church Choir in concert tours of Germany, Switzerland, France, and Italy.

Brown holds degrees from Morehouse College, Bowling Green State University, and the University of Michigan. In 2011 he was voted Faculty Member of the Year at Morehouse College. He is past president of the National Association of Negro Musicians.

Brown is a respected educator and lecturer on African American music. His CD, *Great Day* (2006), is a compilation of Brown's solo spiritual arrangements (Roger Dean Publishers). A recipient of numerous awards, his composition



Southwestern Division

Interest Sessions

commissions include works for National Public Radio and the Atlanta Symphony, colleges, universities, soloists, and ensembles. His works have been performed internationally.

Conductor "Creature" vs. Conductor-Teacher: Empowering Singers through Authenticity in the Choral Rehearsal

This session will illuminate the dynamic relationship between the chorus and the conductor/teacher. Through a series of "mini-rehearsals," a wide variety of teaching strategies will be demonstrated to help attendees shape positive, meaningful relationships with their students and facilitate excellence in their own choral programs.



Ryan Beeken proudly serves as director of choral studies at Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP), where he conducts the University Chorale, Chorus, and Chamber Singers.

In addition, he teaches graduate and undergraduate choral conducting and supervises student teachers. Beeken also serves as artistic director for the Blair Concert Chorale, whose mission includes fostering a growing appreciation of quality choral music for the population of south central Pennsylvania. He received his BM in vocal performance and BME from Drake University and MM and DMA in choral conducting from Michigan State University.

Beeken's choirs have performed at state, division, and national conferences of ACDA. Beeken is regularly engaged as a conductor, clinician, and adjudicator throughout the United States and regularly presents sessions for symposia on topics including repertoire, rehearsal techniques, motivation, conductor-student relationships, and program building.

Prior to his appointment at IUP, Beeken conducted the Women's Glee Club at Michigan State University and the Drake Chorale at Drake University.

He also taught elementary, middle school, and high school music for sixteen years, most recently serving as director of vocal music for Waukee Schools in suburban Des Moines, where he led a program of over three hundred students and twelve ensembles to national distinction.



Andrea Ramsey holds an appointment in choral music education at the Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, where she

teaches choral methods, undergraduate conducting, and conducts the University Chorus. Ramsey has thirteen years of teaching experience with children's, public school, and university choruses. She received her PhD in music education from Michigan State University, where she was a University Distinguished Fellow, and holds an MM in choral conducting from the University of Kansas. Enjoying regular guest conducting and presenting opportunities, Ramsey looks forward to presenting and conducting engagements this year in nine states. An ASCAP award-winning composer, Ramsey composes for a wide range of voices and ability levels and has sixty works in press with publishers such as

Hal Leonard, Boosey & Hawkes, Alliance, Santa Barbara, Walton, Colla Voce, and Carl Fischer. She is composer-in-residence to the Allegro Choirs of Kansas City, where she has twice toured abroad with the choirs to Italy, Austria, and the Czech Republic.

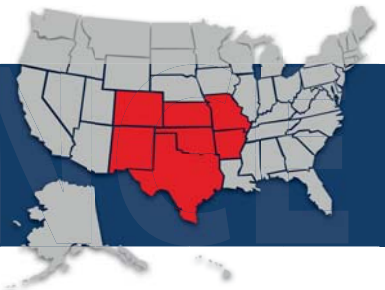
Embodying Music: Transferring Movement from Rehearsal to Performance

Come discover a practical approach to help choir directors of all levels teach their students about the embodiment of music. This concept is derived from a movement exercise called NIA and allows students all the benefits of rehearsal movement that they can also use during performance. Help students release inhibitions and reservations and make authentic performance movement an integral part of every class and concert.



Marci Major, assistant professor of music education and assistant director of choral activities at the University of Missouri, earned her

BME from West Chester University, her MM in choral conducting from Michigan State University, and her PhD in music education from the Ohio State University. At the University of Missouri, Major teaches choral materials and methods, conducting and rehearsal techniques, psychology of music, and conducts MU's Concert Chorale. Remaining active in choral music at all levels, Major also codirects the Choristers ensemble of the St. Louis Children's Chorus. Prior to



her appointment at MU, Major taught middle and high school choir in Michigan and later served as a graduate teaching associate at the Ohio State University, where she taught undergraduate music education classes and conducted university choral ensembles.

Major's primary research interests encompass the economics of music education in today's public schools and choral music in the middle levels. Major has presented her research at state, national, and international conventions. She balances her research interests with the roles of clinician and conductor by giving teacher preparation workshops, guest conducting, and clinicing choirs locally and across the country.



Elizabeth Hogan McFarland is a second-year PhD student studying choral and vocal music education at the University of

Missouri-Columbia, where she directs the Women's Chorale and sings in University Singers, the Bach Collegium Choir, and Choral Union. She holds a dual assistantship within the school of music and the College of Education. McFarland earned her BS in education from the University of Missouri-Columbia, an MM in choral conducting from Michigan State University, and has obtained Level 2 certification through Doreen Rao's CME Institute. Before returning to graduate school, McFarland taught students grades 6–8 to love music as choral director at Parkway Northeast Middle School in suburban St. Louis, Missouri. She is the codirector of the Choristers ensemble with the St. Louis Children's Choirs. She recently completed a term as ACDA's Repertoire & Standards chair for middle level choirs for the state of Missouri and is active as a clinician and

adjudicator in the Midwest.

Fine Tuning For Your Choir

Choir directors at all levels battle intonation problems at some point in the choral rehearsal. The focus of the session will be how a director might rehearse a choir in such a way as to avoid as many intonation pitfalls as possible. This will include standing formation within a section, choir formation, choral warm-ups, melodic vs. harmonic intonation, and when to use a piano in rehearsal.

James Franklin will be the clinician for this session. His photo and bio can be found on page 176.

The **Sam Houston State University Chorale** will be the demonstration choir for this session. Their photo and bio can be found on page 175.

Forty Warm-ups that Work... and Why! Improving Vocal Technique through the Warm-up

Because many students have no music teacher besides their choral director, their musical and vocal limitations are our responsibility. The vocal warm-up, in addition to helping singers meet the immediate demands of the repertoire for their next concert, should systematically build the vocal skill set of our singers over time.

Frank Eychaner will be the clinician for this session. His photo and bio can be found on page 37.



The **Colorado Christian University Choir** is quickly gaining regional and national recognition for its exceptional performances of a broad repertoire with a particular focus on unaccompanied music. The choir is an auditioned ensemble of fifty mixed voices populated primarily by music majors. The CCU University Choir is lauded for its superior ensemble, artistic performances, and variety of choral colors. The choir is honored to be a demonstration group for the 2014 Southwestern ACDA conference.

In Search of Russian Soul: Choral Music of Valery Gavrilin, Georgy Sviridov, and Alfred Schnittke

Elena Sharkova will present a session on Russian choral music of the late twentieth century and the three composers that profoundly influenced the genre.

The turbulent twentieth century brought on revolutions, elimination of religion, wars, and mass repressions and new freedoms, hopes, and uncertainties at the fall of the Soviet Union. With their prolific vocal and choral output, composers Sviridov, Gavrilin, and Schnittke gave strong, honest, and poignant voice to the nation's sorrows and struggles, victories and joys.



Southwestern Division

Interest Sessions

Sharkova will present Valery Gavrilin's choral symphony *Chimes*, arguably

the most performed modern Russian masterpiece. Finally available to choirs

in North America in Sharkova's edition and published by Carl Fischer; the *Chimes* is deeply rooted in Russian folklore.

Sacred choral music of Georgy Sviridov, the premier and most prolific Russian choral composer of the second part of the twentieth century, was not performed or published until the 1990s when religion was returned to the country's public life.

Alfred Schnittke's choral compositions are polystylistic, intense, and dramatic. In his *Concerto for Choir* (1984), Schnittke displays profound understanding of the roots of the music of the Russian Orthodox Church.



Elena Sharkova, a Russian-American conductor, is recognized nationally and internationally as an inspirational and versatile conductor

and a passionate music educator. She has conducted professional, university, youth, and community choirs and orchestras in seventeen countries across North America, Asia, Europe, Russia, and the Middle East.

Born and raised in St. Petersburg, Russia, Sharkova holds a graduate degree in conducting from St. Petersburg State Rimski-Korsakov Conservatory. Since moving to the United States in 1993, she taught at Western Michigan University and in 1998 joined San Jose State University music faculty, where she served as director of choral activities until 2006.

Sharkova recently appeared with Grammy Award-winning Chanticleer as well as projects with Kronos Quartet, Symphony Silicon Valley, visual artist Nene Humphrey, and actor Ryan Gosling. In 2014, Sharkova will serve again as Chanticleer's guest music director for

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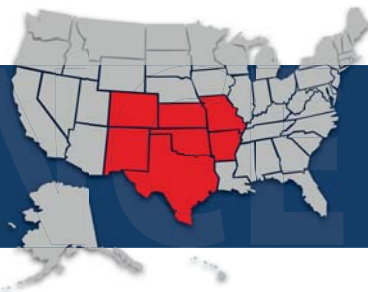
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California State University, Los Angeles
College of Extended Studies and International Programs



a program titled *Russian Dreams*.

Sharkova has served as chorus master for the fully professional Symphony Silicon Valley since 2005, and has been the artistic director of three hundred-voice strong Cantabile Youth Singers since 2004. As a soprano, she performed and recorded with one of Russia's finest professional choirs Lege Artis and appears on five studio CDs on SonyClassical label.

Inspiration: Look Beyond the Page

Inspiration. Where does it come from and how can it be taught to singers in the choir? Miles David said, "Don't play what's there. Play what's not there." The focus of this session is to share activities designed to help conductors differentiate between telling singers to fix a problem and instructing singers how to find a creative solution.



Tom Wine is professor of music education and director of choirs at Wichita State University. Recipient of the 2009 WSU President's

Distinguished Service Award and the 2009 Burton Pell Award from the Wichita Arts Council, Wine is editor of the book *Composers on Composing for Choir*. Wine is past president of Kansas ACDA and currently serves as the Repertoire & Standards chair for youth and student activities for KCDA. His choirs have appeared at KMEA nine times and at Carnegie Hall in 2009. Wine has conducted district and all-state choirs in Kansas, Florida, Oklahoma, Missouri, Alabama, and South Carolina. On three

different occasions he led choirs on trips to Europe with the Kansas Ambassadors. He directs the Chancel Choir at Eastminster Presbyterian Church.

From the Ground Up: Building a New Student Chapter

College Immersion Day
(Wednesday afternoon)

How do you build an ACDA student chapter? Organizing an effective and productive student chapter can be quite challenging. Find out tips, strategies, and useful tools to help grow an organization. Faculty advisors and interested students can find out about hosting educational workshops, festivals, round table discussions, and fund raising.



Aimee Adams, a senior vocal music education major, attends Texas State University-San Marcos. She studies voice with the Brigitte Bellini-Mungo. In her time at Texas State, Adams has been fortunate to serve in the following positions: orientation leader for the office of admissions, resident assistant for the department of residential life, service chair for Mu Phi Epsilon-Alpha Pi, counselor for the Texas State Choir Camp, and secretary and treasurer for Texas State University's chapter of ACDA. She is the recipient of the Clara Nelson Freshour Scholarship, provided by TAMS.

Andre Jackson is a senior music education major at Texas State University. He is currently studying voice with Ronald Ulen. Jackson is active in the bobcat com-



munity. He serves as the president of the Texas ACDA chapter; fraternity education officer of the Gamma Phi Chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, and he is the head entertainment director of the Texas State choir camp. In 2012 he was honored to be the clinician of the Tejada All Star choirs, in San Antonio, Texas. Jackson has also taken part in the Texas State Opera program singing the lead of Micah in *Slow Dusk*, and was a member of the chorus in Mozart's *Don Giovanni*. He is a member of Vocalibre and the Texas State Chorale. Jackson hopes to one day open a school for the arts.



Andrew McNair is a sophomore music education major at Texas State University, where he is a member of the University Singers

and Vocalibre. He studies voice with Joyce Farwell and piano with Kyung-Ae Lee. He is currently the president of the Collegiate Texas Music Educators, the publicity and fundraising chair for the student chapter of ACDA at Texas State University, and an active member of the Alpha Pi Chapter of Mu Phi Epsilon. At Texas State, McNair is a resident assistant living and working specifically with the learning community for the honor's college.



Celeste Morales is a senior at Texas State University majoring in music education with a minor in business administration. Morales is currently



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studying voice under the direction of Oliver Worthington. She is actively involved in Texas State's student chapter of ACDA, serving as vice president and having previously served as secretary. She is a member of Vocalibre, the Texas State Chorale, and the professional Mu Phi Epsilon-Alpha Pi Chapter. Her opera performances include the role of Donna Anna in Mozart's *Don Giovanni* in spring 2013 and the mother role in Humpferdick's *Hänsel und Gretel* in spring 2012. In 2012–2013, she participated in conducting the Tejeda Middle School All-Stars event. This past summer, Morales was the new assistant entertainment director for the Texas State Choir Camp. She hopes to one day open up her own school of music for the arts.

Is Your Choral GPS Working? Tried and True Strategies for Long-Term Rehearsal Planning

Time is one of the greatest commodities in our profession. This session will present specific techniques that maximize efficiency and allow increased opportunities for memorable rehearsal experiences. Repertoire and planning models from a variety of contexts will be presented.



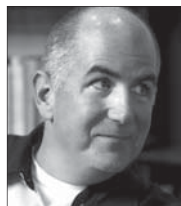
Gary Seighman is director of choral activities at Trinity University in San Antonio, where he oversees a comprehensive choral

music program and teaches courses in advanced conducting and music education. Directly prior to his appointment, Seighman directed the resident profes-

sional choir at Church of the Ascension and Saint Agnes in Washington DC and several ensembles at the University of Maryland. In addition to conducting Trinity's annual choral-orchestral masterwork concert, he has assisted in the choral preparation of orchestral performances including Verdi's *Requiem*, Haydn's *The Creation*, and Shostakovich's *Symphony No. 13* "Babi Yar." Seighman has served on the board of the DC/MD Choral Director's Association, was editor of their state newsletter, and currently serves on the board of NCCO. As a tenor soloist, he has performed throughout the United States and Canada. He has sung professionally with the Berkshire Opera Company, Brightmusic Chamber Series, SpoletoUSA Festival, Washington Bach Consort, and numerous early music ensembles. Seighman received music degrees from Westminster Choir College, the University of Oklahoma, and the University of Maryland.

It's About the Phrase...LIVE!

This is an introduction to the weekly ACDA video feature "It's About the Phrase." It is intended to provide choral conductors with an opportunity to hear small fragments of choral performances for the purpose of comparing different ways to phrase the same piece of music.



Scott W. Dorsey serves the choral art in his current position on the ACDA national staff as director of education and communication.

Like many of his esteemed colleagues, Dorsey holds multiple degrees, has served full time on several university faculties, written a plethora of articles,

and made a few hundred guest appearances (while flying airplanes in his spare time). For those who want details, give him a call.

At the end of the day, he's just plain ol' Scott, a guy who loves the choral art and those with whom he shares music.

The **Norman North High School Ladies of Chorale** will be the demonstration choir for this session. Their photo and bio can be found on page 173.

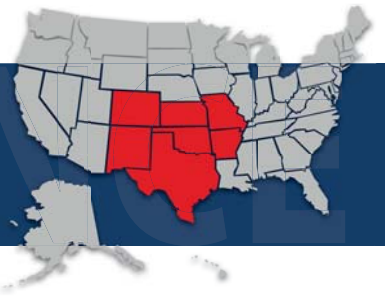
It's Not Just Old Music: Finding Engaging and Quality Repertoire on CPDL

With over fifteen thousand scores, the vast Choral Public Domain Library (CPDL) is a daunting resource and one often misunderstood to contain only ancient scores in poor editions. How do you navigate the CPDL website to find and upload quality scores? Outstanding repertoire for all levels and all choirs will be discussed.



Ryan Kelly is assistant professor of music and associate director of choral activities at West Chester University of Pennsylvania. He directs

Mastersingers, Cantari Donne, and Vocal Jazz Ensemble and teaches courses in conducting, choral music, and voice. He earned his DMA in choral conducting from Michigan State University, where he was awarded their Research Enhancement Award. He also has degrees from the University of Oklahoma and Houston Baptist University. In Michigan, he was artistic director for the Holland



Chorale, and in Texas, director of choral activities at Kilgore College and chorus master for Opera East Texas. Kelly is the Repertoire & Standards chair for student activities for Pennsylvania ACDA. He regularly contributes research to professional journals, is a nationally active guest clinician, and has compositions published by Augsburg Fortress Publishers. In 2014, Carus-Verlag will publish his critical edition of Carl Fasch's *Mass for Sixteen Voices*. Also an experienced church musician and organist, he serves as organist at Proclamation Presbyterian Church, Bryn Mawr.

Music beyond Borders: World Music for Intermediate Treble Choirs

World music provides opportunities for cultural exploration in addition to enriching an ensemble's musical vocabulary. We will explore the processes in finding and selecting appropriate repertoire. Attendees will learn about programming, rehearsing, and performing world choral music.



Brian C. Murray is the associate director of choirs at Creekview High School in Carrollton, Texas, where he conducts the intermediate women's

choir; the freshmen women's choir; and the varsity men's choir. In 2011, Murray established the Advanced Placement (AP) Music Theory program at Creekview High School. In 2013, Murray served as the associate conductor for the Creekview High School A Cappella Choir's performance at the Texas MEA Convention in San Antonio, Texas.

Murray received a BME from the College of Music of the University of North Texas (UNT). He served as the assistant director for the UNT All-State Choir Camp and assistant director and baritone section leader for the UNT MS/JH Honor Choir Camp from 2007 to 2012. Murray is currently working toward a master's degree in choral music from Florida State University.

Murray's professional affiliations include TMEA, TCDA, ACDA, and Pi Kappa Lambda.



Jennifer Alarcon graduated from the University of North Texas (UNT) with a BME in 2008. She remains actively involved with her alma

mater and served as the assistant director for the UNT All-State Choir Camp and assistant director and section leader for the UNT MS/JH Honor Choir Camp from 2006 to 2012.

Alarcon is currently the head director of choirs at Blalack Middle School in C-FB ISD. Previously, Alarcon served as the head director of choirs at Rice Middle School from 2009 to 2012.

Choirs under her direction are consistent recipients of UIL Sweepstakes awards and have been recognized at choral festivals in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. In 2013 the Rice Middle School A Cappella Treble choir was invited to perform at the Texas MEA Clinic and Convention. In 2012 the Rice Middle School A Cappella Tenor-Bass Choir was invited to perform at the inaugural National Conference of Middle School Choral Music.

This summer Alarcon began her master's in choral music at the Florida State University. Alarcon is a Texas Lifetime PTA Member and maintains member-

ships in TMEA, TCDA, and ACDA.

National Standards in the Choral Rehearsal: Strategies for Implementation

New Teacher Immersion Day
(Wednesday afternoon)

Implementing the national standards into the choral rehearsal continues to be a difficult task for many high school choir directors. Ideas will be presented for meeting each of the national standards during a typical choral rehearsal. Practical solutions to classroom management, planning time, and assessment will be presented.



Melissa Baughman has extensive voice and choral teaching experience. She is currently an adjunct music professor at Middle Tennessee

State University in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and was an adjunct voice professor at Central Methodist University in Fayette, Missouri (2012–2013). Baughman is pursuing a PhD in music education with an emphasis on vocal pedagogy and choral conducting at the University of Missouri (MU), where she recently completed an MM in vocal performance. At MU, she was a teaching assistant for the voice and choral programs and acted as the original program coordinator for the Higday Mozart Outreach Concert Series.

As a public school educator in Ohio, Baughman taught K–12 vocal music for six years. She received a BME and MME



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from Bowling Green State University. She holds memberships with the NATS, NAfME, ACDA, and Missouri MEA. As a researcher, Baughman participated in a poster session at the 2013 Missouri MEA Conference and recently published a research-to-practice article in the *Missouri School Music* magazine. Her main research interests are vocal pedagogy, effective studio instruction, and assessment.

The Negro Spiritual: The Metamorphosis of the Oral Tradition in African American Religious Music

An overview of the evolution of the Negro spiritual in American musical culture: what influences contributed to its development and propagation, and how it evolved from the oral experience to become vehicles for public performance as solo and choral works on the concert stage. This session will include lecture/demonstrations and interactive performance activities.

Uzee Brown, Jr. will be the clinician for this session. His photo and bio can be found on page 181.

The Nathaniel Dett Chorale will be the demonstration choir for this session. Their photo and bio can be found on page 109.

Oh Brother! Success with Boy Singers

Venture into the world of the boy. How do you successfully deal with

boys in choirs? How do you keep boys engaged, overcome stereotypes, recruit, retain, and select appropriate repertoire? The magic of movement and how athletics can exist with the arts in a boy's life will also be explored.

Julian Ackerley will be the clinician for this session. His photo and bio can be found on page 54.

Reaching Their Potential: Repertoire for the Church's Children and Youth

This session provides directors of church music programs with new and tried-and-true repertoire selections to bolster the success of their children's and youth choirs. Attention is given to accessible pieces that require minimal rehearsal time but offer substantial musicality and spiritual depth.

Wesley G. Smith will be the clinician for this session. His photo and bio can be found on page 154.

Scanning Choral Music into Finale®

Is the sheet music you want to perform too high for your singers or written for a different choral configuration than your performing group? This in-depth session delves into the intricacies, roadblocks, and tips for the successful scanning of sheet music into notation programs in general and Finale in particular.



Tom Johnson, Finale product specialist for MakeMusic, has one of the most extensive backgrounds in the Music Technology Industry. Since

joining MakeMusic in 1987, he has been the primary Finale Specialist giving product training and demonstrations throughout the world. His unique blend of enthusiasm and product knowledge make him the most sought-after presenter and trainer of Finale products anywhere.

Singing America's Early Music: The Yankee Tunesmiths

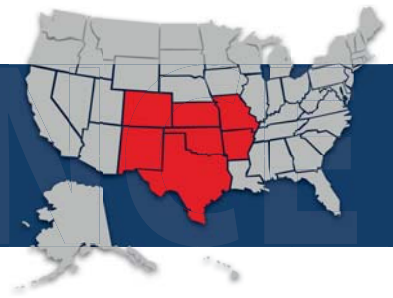
This session is a lecture-recital with the small ensemble Jargon singing the music and telling the history and musical practices of the Yankee tunesmiths who were America's first homegrown composers or makers of tunes. For those interested in the musical genre of the tunesmiths, the early of syllables used for teaching, and the potential use at all levels, find performance techniques and repertoire.



Rolaine Hetherington is an assistant professor of music at Friends University. She has been at Friends University since 1993. In 2003 she became the conductor of the Concert Choir and

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formed Kantorei, a small chamber ensemble from within the choir. She has also served as music director for several of the university's musicals. As a graduate student, Hetherington was a Rotary Graduate Fellowship recipient and studied in Austria for a year. She is an alumnus of the Dale Warland Singers and the Minnesota Bach Society and has been an adjudicator and soloist throughout the upper Midwest.

Holly Ruth Gale is on the voice faculty at Arkansas Tech University (ATU), where she teaches applied voice, Italian diction, music theatre workshop, and conducts the ATU Women's Choir. She has served as guest clinician for various all-region choirs in Arkansas. Gale is active in professional and academic theatre and

as a recitalist. She frequently performs jazz and standards with area bands. Gale is also a frequent lecturer on singing schools and shape note music. She has served on the Executive Committee for the Shape Note Gathering since its inception in 2001. This event is held at the Ozark Folk Center in Mountain View, Arkansas, in July.

John Hetherington, a graduate of Friends University, holds degrees in biology and chemistry and is currently an environmental scientist for Spirit AeroSystems, Inc. While at Friends University, Hetherington was a member of the Singing Quakers and Concert and Jazz Bands.

After graduating, he performed with the Wichita Chamber Choral. Hetherington has held positions as a church

choral musician, which helped foster his love for sacred choral music.

Anthony Graham teaches music for grades K–4 at Sequoyah Elementary School in the Russellville School District. He graduated with a BME from Arkansas Tech University. This is his first year teaching in the Russellville School District and second year teaching public school. Graham spent the 2012–2013 school year as the assistant choir director at Lakeside High School in Hot Springs, Arkansas. While at Lakeside, his choirs received superior and excellent division ratings at the Southwest Region Choral Performance Assessment and the Arkansas State Choir Festival. Graham is a member of the Arkansas ACDA and NAfME.



Career Moves

The San Diego Master Chorale announces a unique opportunity for a dynamic music director commencing with the 2014-2015 concert season. They are seeking an enthusiastic music director to lead the oldest Master Chorale in California into its fifty-fifth season. The music director will prepare and enable the ensemble to achieve the next level of artistic excellence in both symphonic performance and independent concerts to multicultural audiences with innovative repertoires and thematic programming consistent with the mission statement: "To promote and preserve choral music through performance, education, and diverse community outreach." For more information about this position, turn to the display ad on page 99.



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Charley Sandage is mostly retired from a career in teaching and administration in public schools and colleges, with stops at Arkansas Educational Television Network and with the Ozark Folk Center as its first program director. The Shape Note Gathering was Sandage's brainchild, and he has served on its executive board from its beginning.

Anna Hetherington is a junior at Friends University majoring in Spanish and working on minors in music and art. She is a member of the Singing Quakers and the Jazz Vocal Ensemble. Hetherington is active in the drama department as well, having been involved in the musical each year as a member of the ensemble or leading roles.

SSA Relevance in an "SATB World"

This session will briefly discuss the history of women's choral singing before delving into ways in which we can encourage a heightened level of significance and relevance of women's choir in our schools and communities.

ACDA on the Web
www.acda.org



Jill Burleson Burgett, director of choral music education and associate director of choral studies at University of Northern Colorado (UNC), conducts the Women's Glee Club and UNC Chamber Choir and teaches choral methods and conducting classes. Her DA is from Ball State University, where she was the Don Neuen fellowship recipient and subsequently served for three years as associate director of choral activities. She holds an MM in choral conducting from Ball State and a BME from Heidelberg University, with additional vocal study at Eastern Illinois University.

For nearly twenty years, Burgett has conducted choirs in the public school arena. She currently serves as president of Colorado ACDA and has served on the Indiana and Colorado ACDA and NCCO boards. Additionally, she was the Central Division ACDA Repertoire & Standards chair for youth and student activities. She has judged all-state choir auditions and has served as a clinician/conductor on a national level, with performances at state and divisional MENC conventions, a College Music Society National Convention, the Festival 500 International Festival, an NCCO National Conference, and the Villa-Lobos International Festival. Her research on the Sacred Choral Music of Villa-Lobos is published in the *Choral Journal*, and she has published numerous entries in the *New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*. Recent international concert tours have included performances and competitions in Vienna, Prague, Budapest, Baden, Eisenstadt, and a scheduled performance in Rome.

Teach Phrasing First: Practical Considerations for Teaching Artistry at the Beginning of the Rehearsal Process

Choirs learn, internalize, and repeat in performance what they do most often in rehearsal. Good choral pedagogy includes the separation and integration of the technical aspects of the music and the articulation of the music's artistic and expressive content. If, however, music learning is completely separated from musical expression and artistry, or artistic concerns are addressed near or at the end of the rehearsal process, conductors will create a context wherein the desired communication of expressive content will be difficult, if not impossible, to achieve, and their performances will lack the expressive and emotional depth that defines a great performance.

This session will focus on the specific ways that teaching the expressive elements of music—including but not limited to phrase shape and direction, word stress and accentuation, and structure and musical form—at the beginning of the rehearsal process can complement the music learning process and result in better, more engaging musical performances. The session will illustrate several musical principles that can be transferable to a wide variety of choral repertoire.

Steven Grives will be the clinician for this session. His photo and bio can be found on page 159.





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Honor Choir Conductors

Children



Emily Ellsworth is nationally recognized as a leader in the field of youth chorus directors. She has served as artistic director of

ANIMA-Young Singers of Greater Chicago (formerly the Glen Ellyn Children's Chorus) since 1996. She also serves as lecturer in choral conducting at Northwestern University, where she conducts the University Singers, a group of undergraduate voice and music majors. Her work with ANIMA received the 2013 ASCAP Adventurous Programming Award from Chorus America, the 2009 Dale Warland Singers Commissioning Award given by Chorus America and the American Composers Forum (for Nico Muhly's *How Soon?* with Grammy Award-winning ensemble eighth blackbird) as well as Chorus America's 2008 Margaret Hillis Award for Choral Excellence. Additional awards include the 2000 United States Library of Congress Local Legacies Award, and the 2001 ASCAP Chorus America award for adventurous programming.

She has prepared various ensembles for performances with internationally recognized symphonies; eight CD recordings; national and regional conferences of ACDA, Kodály educator, and Chorus America; and concert tours to six continents. Ellsworth has served several times on the music panel for the National Endowment for the Arts in Washington DC and is the advisor of Boosey & Hawkes's Opera Workshop series. She spent twenty years teaching and singing as a voice faculty member in various college and university settings. She is in frequent demand as guest clin-

ician/conductor throughout the United States and around the world. Ellsworth holds an MM with honors from the University of Southern California's Thornton School of Music.

College/University

Elena Sharkova will be the conductor for this choir. Her photo and bio can be found on page 184.

Junior High Mixed



Patrick Freer is associate professor of choral music education at Georgia State University in Atlanta, where he conducts the University Men's

Chorus and the Choral Union. He holds degrees from Westminster Choir College and Teachers College, Columbia University. He has guest conducted or presented in thirty-six states and seventeen countries. In addition to the Southwest ACDA honor choir, he will conduct 2014 honor choirs in China and Thailand and in the states of Colorado, Georgia, New York, and Tennessee. His 2013-14 schedule includes research, presentations, and/or teaching graduate courses in Belgium, Estonia, Singapore, and Spain, and in eleven states.

Freer is academic editor and chair of the editorial committees for *Music*

Educators Journal and has authored over eighty articles in most of the field's leading national and international journals. Publications include *Getting Started with Middle School Chorus* (named outstanding Academic Title by Choice) and the DVD series *Success for Adolescent Singers*. His most recent publications include a chapter in the book *Perspectives on Males and Singing*, articles in the *Bulletin of the Council for Research in Music Education*, *Choral Journal*, *Middle Grades Research Journal*, *Arts Education Policy Review*, and *Philosophy of Music Education Review*, and guest editing two issues of *Choral Journal* focused on male singing from middle school through college.

Senior High Men

Robert Ward will be the conductor for this choir. His photo and bio can be found on page 74.

Senior High Women

Amanda Quist will be the conductor for this choir. Her photo and bio can be found on page 28.



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