Wow! It’s August!! Many of us spent our summer sleeping in and working diligently to do as little as possible, while others have been efficient with their time. You may have enjoyed a glass of wine in various cities around the world, or possibly had the pleasure of drinking iced tea in your backyard each afternoon. Or, maybe your summer was full by keeping offspring engaged with activities and camps and chauffeuring. No matter now! Our futures look similar: classrooms and rehearsal rooms filled with the next generation. Ella Fitzgerald says it best...

_The only thing better than singing is more singing._

We truly are blessed with an amazing gig! We get to SING each day! Take a moment to remind yourself of the amazing gifts vocal music provides to our students. We have been given the remarkable opportunity to oversee this experience, and observe first hand as it changes souls and builds kids. However, as we advance steadily towards the launch of the school year, my thoughts settle on the impending shift from Adagio to Prestissimo many of us encounter. In order to offset my trepidation, it has become a mission to hear about the amazing work that will be achieved in rehearsal rooms all around SoCal this upcoming year. For example...

_We will be sight reading every day! (okay…most days)! **** We will be laughing during every rehearsal. **** I have been able to get google classroom to work for me and my students.****Our leadership team is moving in an amazing direction. ****Our desired choral blend/tone quality/dynamic differentiation/diction/expression of text/articulation is progressing beyond my expectations. **** We are travelling to Europe / Canada / Washington DC/ New Orleans, etc._

How about staying enlightened & encouraged during the school year? This summer I was introduced to the Choral History Podcast. It’s awesome! And here are some others to consider...

- Choralosophy
- The Choral Contrarians
- The Full Voice Podcast
- The Choir – The Choral Interview
- Choral Conversations
- Choir Ninja
- Choral podcast from Magnatune
- Choir Baton
- Choral Capophone Podcast
- Total Choir Resources
- The Choir Conductor
- Westminster-to-Go
- Boy Choir Magazine

Do you enjoy staying connected via Social Media? If so, join some of these Facebook groups!

- SCVA | CCDA | I’m A Choir Director | Show Choir Connect | Choir Director Central | ACDA | ACDA Children & Youth | Choir Buzz | Choir|Choir|Choir! | Classic FM | Show Choir Kindness | I Teach Middle School Chorus | Middle School Chorus Directors
- I’m a Church Choir Director | Middle School Choir Newbies | Choral Music | Professional Voice Teachers | Music Teacher Mommies | Counterpoint with Deke and Dietz | The Choir – The Choral Interview

SCVA Board Members are planning an amazing year ahead for you and your students. Renew your _membership_ early and be sure to take advantage of the events and supported offered!

_The Choir Festivals – Host apps due Oct. 1
Vocal Jazz/A Cappella Honor Choir - The 2018 Inaugural Honor Choir earned the esteemed Downbeat Honors Ensemble Award! Audition applications due September 6.
High School Honor Choir –Audition applications due Sept. 14.
Close Harmony Festival, A Cappella/Vocal Jazz Festival, Elementary Festivals / Events
Show Choir Spectacular, Jr. High/Middle School Honor Choir, Solo/Small Ensemble Festivals

The SCVA Board would like to extend an enormous “Thank You” to Rhonda Bauer for her wonderful work with the Jr. High Honor Choir in 2019 as we welcome Amanda Benavides into that role for this upcoming year!

Wishing you the exact pairing of tenacity & joy necessary for an amazing 2019-20 school year!
HIGH SCHOOL HONOR CHOIR 2019 DETAILS

WHAT IS HONOR CHOIR?
270 outstanding choir members will be selected from approximately 500 auditionees to sing in one of three choirs: SSAA, TTBB, or SATB Honor Choir. Singers will receive a packet of high-quality music and rehearsal tracks, come together on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, November 21 - 23, at University of Redlands for three full days of intense rehearsals under the baton of our esteemed guest conductors. The experience culminates with a Saturday evening concert at the University of Redlands. Students accepted to this choir are eligible for the CCDA CA All State Honor Choir.

TTBB Choir Conductor: Dr. Christopher Peterson, Cal State Fullerton, Fullerton
SSAA Choir Conductor: Prof. Lori Marie Rios, College of the Canyons, Santa Clarita
SATB Choir Conductor: Dr. Joe Miller, Westminster Choir College of Rider University, Princeton, New Jersey

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?
Singers (grades 9-12) who are enrolled in and are in good standing with their high school choral program are eligible to audition. The sponsoring choral teacher must be a current member of SCVA for the singer to be assigned an audition spot.

WHEN & WHERE?
- MONDAY, AUGUST 19 – Online Audition Applications Open
- FRIDAY, SEPT. 13 – Online Audition Registration Closes
- TUESDAY, SEPT. 17 – Audition Times/Locations confirmed online
- SATURDAY, SEPT. 21 (9am-1pm) – Audition Option #1
  OR
- SATURDAY, SEPT 28 (12pm-4pm) – Audition Option #2
- THURSDAY, FRIDAY, and SATURDAY NOV. 21 - 23 – Honor Choir Weekend at the University of Redlands

*Note – check all dates including SAT/ACT tests, sporting events, school & community performing schedules, etc. BEFORE auditioning. See Honor Choir Guidelines at www.scvachoral.org

HAVE QUESTIONS?
MATTHEW NETTO & MICHAEL USHINO
High School Honor Choir, VPs
matthew_netto@jusd.k12.ca.us
miushino@capousd.org
High School Honor Choir 2019

The Process

For a complete look at Policies & Procedures, please visit www.scvachoral.org

Also, view our sample audition video at: https://tinyurl.com/ycc7pjkk

The Audition (100 points)

We recommend that you review each of these skills so you are well prepared:

• **SOLO:** (40 points) Prepare one Italian, French, or German song to be sung from memory. We recommend Schirmer’s 24 Italian Songs and Arias or 26 Italian Songs and Arias edited by John Glenn Paton, or equivalent art song in a foreign language. Singers must bring either an accompanist or provide an accompaniment track with a phone with 1/8” audio jack. iPhone users must also bring their own interface dongle for the audition. All recorded accompaniment tracks may only include piano accompaniment and not include any vocal tracks.

• **TONAL MEMORY:** (25 points) Five-note passages will be played on the piano for the singer to repeat, sung on any syllable.

• **SIGHT-READING:** (20 points) A single-line, unaccompanied melody will be supplied, sung on any syllable.

• **SCALES/TRIADS:** (15 points) Sing the following ascending and descending: major scale, major triad, minor triad (lowered 3rd from the major triad, not "la" based), and chromatic scale, sung on any syllable.

How to Apply:

1) Go to the SCVA website (www.scvachoral.org), find the Honor Choir tab and complete the Student Audition Application. (Nota Bene: Applications will be on hold until the director renews SCVA membership)

2) Select the date/site at which you wish to audition, include your teacher’s e-mail and if you wish to be considered for All State Honor Choir (Feb. 20-22 in San Jose, CA). Be sure you have checked availability for ALL dates.

3) Pay $10 Audition Fee online using PayPal or with school check (no personal checks will be accepted). **No student will be given an audition time without payment by Sept. 14**th. Mail School Checks (payable to SCVA) to: Matthew Netto, Director of Vocal Music, Patriot High School, 4355 Camino Real, Jurupa Valley, CA 92509

THE FINE PRINT:

If selected for the 2019 Honor Choir the singer must participate. If a student does not attend rehearsal or drops out of an SCVA Honor Choir, the student’s school may not be allowed to participate in Honor Choir the following school year.

• Calendar conflicts are NOT an acceptable reason for missing rehearsal or dropping Honor Choir. This includes work schedule, athletic games or practices, SAT tests, school choir or drama events, etc. We encourage every student to check the dates above before applying to audition.

• Students who must, out of extreme necessity (such as a death in the family or a serious medical problem, or other matter of an equally serious nature) drop out of Honor Choir after being accepted are required to provide a signed, written note from their parents and from their school choral director stating the reasons for the drop out.

• Students are responsible for travel to and from the rehearsals and must be chaperoned by a parent or teacher if staying overnight.
SCVA FALL IN-SERVICE

Friday, September 27TH, 2019
9:00am-3:00pm
Registration 8:30-9:00 a.m.
Placentia Presbyterian Church
849 North Bradford Ave, Placentia

Break Out Sessions:
- Voice Teacher Skills (and Secrets) for the Choral Conductor
  Katharin Rundus
- Sight Singing for Classroom and Festival Success
  Karen Garrett
- Lunch and Learn
- Reading Session

Sessions:
- Reaching and Teaching Them All
  My Experience Teaching in Diverse Socio-Economic Student Populations.
- Performance Practice in Latin American Choral Music

REGISTER AT WWW.SCVACHORAL.ORG
EARLY REGISTRATION ENDS SEPTEMBER 17TH
PARTICIPANTS NEED NOT BE SCVA MEMBERS. BRING ALONG A CHORAL COLLEAGUE!

Cristian Grases
You Talked, We Listened!!!
Nancy Ludwig, SCVA Festivals VPI

What’s new with festivals? EVERYTHING!!! Last school year many members emailed, called, filled out surveys, talked to someone on the SCVA Festivals Team, and brought up issues and needs. Thank you so much for taking the time to communicate these issues with us. We are pleased to announce the following changes coming to you this year based largely upon the needs expressed by SCVA members!

**EARLIER ACCESS TO FESTIVAL REGISTRATION**

Many of our members have commented that they would like access to the festival schedule earlier, and we agree! This year the following changes are being made:

- **NEW** Festival Host Registration Deadline: October 1
- **Festival Registration Opens:** October 15

**CHANGES TO THE ADJUDICATION SYSTEM**

We are currently working on an *Ensemble Classification System*, which will be introduced this coming fall. The purpose of this system is:

- To more clearly define the difference between novice, intermediate, and advanced ensembles
- To more clearly state the expectations in a festival for each type of ensemble
- To simplify, align, and more clearly define these qualities for not only our members, but also for our adjudicators based on the following factors:
  - Overall years of experience of the singers in your ensemble
  - Difficulty level of repertoire
  - Hours per week spent in rehearsal
  - Whether a group is select, partially select, or not selective

**FESTIVAL REGISTRATION CHANGES- aka DON’T PANIC!!!**

All participating directors will be asked to select their Ensemble Classification from the following choices:

- Middle School or High School **Classification III**: Novice Level Ensembles
- Middle School or High School **Classification II**: Intermediate Level Ensembles
- Middle School or High School **Classification I**: Advanced Level Ensembles

You will have a link to the definition sheet for each one of these classifications to guide you in making the most appropriate selection for your group!!!! (again, don’t panic)

The Festivals Team will be available at the Fall In-Service to discuss this in detail!!! (let’s all breathe...)

We will be available by email, phone call, or helicopter to alleviate confusion!!! (Do we have a helicopter in our budget?)

Thank you again for reinforcing the need for changes to this system, and for advocating for your students who are always at the center of what SCVA is all about!
AUDITIONS BEGIN ONLINE - AUG. 5TH – SEPTEMBER 6TH, 2019

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA VOCAL ASSOCIATION PRESENTS:

CONTEMPORARY A CAPPELLA & VOCAL JAZZ HONOR CHOIR

WITH
CSULB DIRECTOR OF VOCAL JAZZ
CHRISTINE GUTER

NOVEMBER 21 & 22, 2019
UNIVERSITY OF REDLANDS

For more info email:
Christine Mocha  cmocha@hartdistrict.org

IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

SCVA MEMBERSHIPS RUN FROM AUG 1 - JUN 30.

VISIT SCVACHORAL.ORG TO RENEW AND PAY ONLINE.

REMEMBER THAT YOU AND YOUR STUDENTS WILL BE UNABLE TO REGISTER FOR EVENTS UNTIL YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS CURRENT.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

@SCVACHORAL  FACEBOOK.COM/SCVACHORAL
2019 SCVA Festival Adjudication Summary

By Dan Hawkins, VP of Festival Adjudication

It has been my pleasure to serve SCVA this year! Special thanks to Nancy Ludwig and Melva Morrison for all their work organizing our festivals, to our Webmaster, Mark Freedkin, for all his support with changes and improvements to the website, and to all our adjudicators for their dedication and valuable input!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2019 FESTIVAL EVALUATIONS</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ratings from adjudicators were fair/accurate:</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comments from adjudicators were constructive &amp; helpful:</td>
<td>98%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Would you attend this festival again or recommend it to others:</td>
<td>98%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Evaluations Received: 105

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2019 Most Frequently Performed Festival Repertoire</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ave Verum Corpus - W.A. Mozart</td>
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<tr>
<td>Esto Les Digo - Kinley Lange</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lightning! - Greg Gilpin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salmo 150 - Ernani Aguiar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sisi Ni Moja - Jacob Naverud</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homeward Bound - Marta Keen, arr. Jay Althouse</td>
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<tr>
<td>J’entends le moulin - French, arr. Emily Crocker</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Seal Lullaby - Eric Whitacre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonsa Aba - Zambian, arr. Victor C. Johnson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cantate Domino - Nancy Hill Cobb</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dirait-on - Morten Lauridsen</td>
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<tr>
<td>For the Beauty of the Earth - John Rutter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soon-ah Will Be Done - William L. Dawson</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Storm is Passing Over - arr. Barbara W. Baker</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Word Was God - Rosephanye Powell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Come In From The Firefly Darkness - Amy Feldman Bernen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daemon Irrepit Callidus - Gyorgy Orban</td>
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<tr>
<td>Earth Song - Frank Ticheli</td>
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<tr>
<td>I Sing Because I’m Happy - Rollo Dilworth</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lift Thine Eyes (from Elijah) - Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lineage - Andrea Ramsey</td>
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<tr>
<td>No Time - arr. Susan Brumfield</td>
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<tr>
<td>Will the Circle Be Unbroken - arr. J. David Moore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Witness - Jack Halloran, arr. Dick Bolks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2019 FESTIVAL RATINGs</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018*</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amt</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Amt</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superior</td>
<td>285</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>407</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>438</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*In 2018, scoring on the adjudication form was revised. Numeric scores replaced letter grades.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FESTIVAL SIGHT-READING RATINGS</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018*</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amt</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Amt</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superior</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participant</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FESTIVAL ATTENDANCE</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of SCVA Festivals</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of SCVA Sight-Reading Festivals</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Directors Attending Festivals</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Choirs Attending Festivals</td>
<td>437</td>
<td>438</td>
<td>420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Students Attending Festivals</td>
<td>15,555</td>
<td>16,132</td>
<td>15,764</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of Membership Attending Festivals</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total SCVA Membership</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>432</td>
<td>480</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2019 saw a 79% increase in the number of choirs participating in SCVA Sight-Reading Festivals!
Have you attended one yet??
IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

High School Honor Choir Online Audition Applications Open  August 20, 2019
Acappella and Vocal Jazz Honor Choir Application Deadline  September 6, 2019
High School Honor Choir Online Audition Applications Close  September 13, 2019
High School Honor Choir Audition Times/Locations Posted Online  September 17, 2019
High School Honor Choir Auditions @ Various Sites  September 21, 2019
SCVA Fall In-Service  September 27, 2019
High School Honor Choir Auditions @ Various Sites  September 28, 2019
High School Honor Choir Audition Results Posted  October 12, 2019
Festival Host Registration Closes  November 1, 2019
Acappella and Vocal Jazz Honor Choir Rehearsal  November 21-22, 2019
Acappella and Vocal Jazz Honor Choir Performance  November 22, 2019
High School Honor Choir Weekend  November 21-23, 2019
High School Honor Choir Performance  November 23, 2019
CMEA State Choral Festival at Sonoma State University  April 9, 2020
SCVA Vocal Jazz Contemporary A Cappella Festival  March 13, 2020