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SCVA at CASMEC 2018

SCVA will be an exhibitor at the California All-State Music Education Conference in San Jose, California, February 15-18th. Please stop by and visit our booth. We will also be hosting a reception for all SCVA members at McCormick and Schmick's restaurant (170 South Market, San Jose) Thursday Feb. 15th from 8:00-10:00 p.m. Join us for choral camaraderie and fantastic food. See you in San Jose!

Do you find yourself swimming in a sea of alphabet soup when it comes to educational acronyms and organizational abbreviations?

When I was a young teacher new to the music teaching profession, I was confounded when reading music newsletters and magazines when they used numerous abbreviations. A small sampling; CCDA, ACDA, NafME, CMEA, SCVA, CASMEC, CBDA, etc... Which organizations should I join? Which would help me be the best choral conductor and high school music educator? Where would I find the most pertinent resources for my teaching situation?

Here is a brief primer. See each organization's website for more info:

ACDA – American Choral Directors Association - <https://acda.org> - A national association. Provides choral conferences and the choral journal magazine.

CCDA – California Choral Directors Association - <http://www.acdocal.org> - a state affiliate of ACDA.

NafME – National Association of Music Educators - <https://nafme.org> - serves all music educators; band, choir, orchestra, elementary. Education and advocacy emphasis.

CMEA- California Music Educators Association - <http://www.calmusiced.com/> - a state affiliate of NafME – provides conferences and festivals.

SCVA – Southern California Vocal Association - <http://www.scvachoral.org> – serves Southern California Choral Directors through workshops and provides choral/vocal events for students.

CASMEC – California All-State Music Education Conference - <http://casmec.org/> - not an organization, per se, but a conference sponsored by ACDA/CMEA/CBDA (California Band Directors Association)/ CODA (California Orchestra Directors Association).

Be sure to explore the website of each organization to see what resources they provide that best suit your needs. SCVA serves a strong community in Southern California of dedicated choral directors intent on professional growth and provides outstanding choral/vocal events for their students. We know you have many choices of organizations to join, and we thank you for choosing SCVA. See you in San Jose!

Preliminary Performance Registration

Vocal Solo and Small Ensemble Competition

How Do I Register?

Step 1

Register your solo or ensemble
www.scvachoral.org

Step 2

Select the Performance Category

*Classical or Musical Theatre/Jazz

*Competitive, Non-Competitive,
Rating or Comments only

Step 3

Pay the Registration Fee

\$30 for solo, and \$35 for small
ensembles online

Online Application & Payment Deadline

Monday, January 8, 2018
www.scvachoral.org

For further questions and
information: Please email
marisa.bradfield@providencehigh.org

Audition Dates and Locations

Saturday, January 20th: Fullerton High School, Host: Scott Hedgecock
Saturday, February 3rd: Newbury Park High School, Host: John Sargent
Saturday, February 17th: Providence High School, Host: Marisa Bradfield

Performance Guidelines Quick Tips

- All registrations must have director approval
- Directors or voice teachers must be current SCVA members.
- When performing in an ensemble, only one vocalist per part will be allowed.
- Ensemble participants can have a group size of three to eight vocalists.
- All solo performances must be accompanied.
- All performers must supply their own accompanist.
- All solo performances must be memorized. Ensemble performances may choose to perform with scores.
- All participants must select repertoire from the classical, musical theatre, or jazz genre.

Attention!

SCVA applicants who earn a superior rating will automatically qualify to participate in the CMEA State Solo and Small Ensemble Finals Competition. For more information, please visit: www.calmusiced.com

Spots are filling up for our Vocal Jazz and Contemporary A Cappella Festival! For more info visit www.scvachoral.org

CMEA State Choral Festival Participants Selected

Nancy Ludwig, CMEA State Choral Festival Chairperson



CMEA has completed the application process for the CMEA State Choral Festival to be held on March 8, 2018 at Musco Center for the Arts, Chapman University. Thirteen choirs have been selected, and they represent a wide variety of ensemble types, including both Middle School and High School choirs. The selected ensembles represent superior musical work at the novice, intermediate, and advanced levels. CMEA would like to thank all the choirs who applied for their fine work, and congratulate all the participants on being chosen.



Selected Choirs

Bernardo Yorba Middle School Vocal Ensemble, Linda Nason, director
El Capitan Middle School Chamber Choir, Jacob Bailey, director
Glacier Point Middle School Glacier Point Choir, Jeff LaRose, director
Hughes Middle School Chorale, Steven Clausen, director
Manhattan Beach Middle School Madrigal Singers, Heather Gold, director
Roosevelt Middle School Mixed Ensemble, Beverly Taylor, director

Beckman High School, Bel Canto Advanced Women's Choir, Nancy Stuck, director
Beckman High School Madrigals, Nancy Stuck, director
California High School Chamber Choir, Dan Hawkins, director
Mission Viejo High School Chamber Singers, Sarah Norris, director
Porterville High School Madrigals, Aaron Snell, director
Redwood High School Chamber Singers, Melchor P. Carrillo, director
Santiago High School Madrigals, Karen Garrett, director

Junior High/Middle School/Ninth Grade Honor Choir

Marcelo Martínez Marroquín, VP-JHS/MS/9th Honor Choir

As auditions for the Junior High/Middle School/9th Grade Honor Choir approach, I hope that you will encourage your students to audition, even if they might not feel ready. As I tell my students, the more you audition the easier it gets and the better you get at auditioning. Auditioning itself is a skill that needs practice.



We will have auditions on two different weekends: Saturday, January 20, 2018 and Saturday, January 27, 2018. Several choral directors throughout Southern California have been kind enough to give up their Saturday mornings and open up their schools to give our students this wonderful opportunity. Make sure you encourage all your students to audition, especially the men. The application is up on the SCVA website. It closes January 12, 2018. Our guest conductor this year is Dr. Angel Vázquez Ramos with accompanist Christopher Luthi. Honor Choir this year will be hosted at Portola High School in Irvine.

SCVA Contemporary A Cappella & Vocal Jazz Festival
Friday March 9th, 2018
Featuring The Filharmonic



Hi Choral Directors!

Happy break! Just wanted to send out a reminder to sign up for our CONTEMPORARY A Cappella and Vocal Jazz Festival!

To sign up, go to http://www.scvachoral.org/jazz_festival_login.php and enroll today!

Date: Friday, March 9, 2018

Time: 11:00am-6:30pm - 1/2 hour afternoon performance & clinic:

What equipment do we have?

20 Shure SM58 Wireless Microphones

Yes, pedals and effects can be used in the festival.

Yamaha Grand Piano, Bass Amp, drums (bring your own cymbals/sticks)

What groups should come?

Novice to Advanced Contemporary A Cappella & Vocal Jazz groups!

If your group isn't A Cappella and needs an accompanist?

SCVA provides a trio of musicians (bass/piano/drums) on site for hire.

If your school is novice or advanced?

Jamie Shew of Fullerton College and **Vijay Rosales** of "The Filharmonic" are able to clinic you on stage exactly at the level of the group. This is a learning festival and helpful for all those attending on stage and in the audience. **Questions? Email Christine Tavares-Mocha at cmocha@hartdistrict.org . See you there!**

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Bevin Abbe is in her 16th year of teaching.

She taught two years of middle school instrumental music in El Rio School District and is in her 14th year of teaching Vocal Music at Santa Susana High School in Simi Valley where she teaches Women's Choir, Vocal Ensemble, Show Choir, Advanced Women's Choir, Abbe Road A Cappella, and Musical Theatre.



SCVA Member, 14 Years

BEVIN ABBE

What pieces of music are always a hit with your students?

That Ever I Saw, by Darmon Meader

Prayer of the Children, arr. Andrea S. Klouse.

What aspect of teaching keeps you motivated or makes you feel fulfilled?

What keeps me motivated is the students. They have such a joy and passion for performing beautiful music. It also helps that we have a busy program, so there is not a lot of time to sit around. I find a lot of fulfillment in the spark of understanding the meaning of a piece of music, as well as students that take direction and grow from it.

Give a shout out to a choral colleague who inspires you.

I have to give a shout out to **Christine Tavares Mocha** (Valencia High School), **Bonnie Graeve** (Royal High School) and **John Knutsen** (Cuesta College). They each have so much passion for music, for their kids and for spreading the "choral love". I have learned so much from each of them and have been inspired by their dedication to choral music.

What SCVA event would you like to see more colleagues attend?

The Vocal Jazz Festival at Valencia High School is always a fantastic day. Christine Tavares Mocha and her students run a great festival with wonderful adjudicators and amazing headline performers. We always learn a lot that day and come away from it inspired.



A New Feature For Festivals: Wait Listing

Nancy Ludwig VPI Festivals

As the festival schedule continues to fill up, you may be wondering...is it possible for me to squeeze into that closed festival, especially if that particular festival is the only one that fits my schedule? We do occasionally have groups that need to cancel their registration, which leaves an open spot. In the past, that has left a festival less than full, and sometimes rather empty.

New for this year is the 'waitlist' feature! You can now register for a full festival and be put on the waiting list! If a registered ensemble cancels their registration, the first waitlisted group will be automatically enrolled in that festival. The director will be notified that ... "You're in!"

It is the hope of SCVA that this new feature will enable more choirs to attend festivals. In addition, keeping a festival full allows our singers to experience the entire festival experience rather than just performing for one or two other choirs.

Questions about Wait Listing? Email: nancyludwig6@gmail.com, melsmusic@verizon.net, or mfreedkin@yahoo.com

Festival Registration is Easier Than Ever!!!

Nancy Ludwig VPI Festivals

Your SCVA Festivals team has incorporated many new features into the registration process this year. Among these features is the registration process itself. As many of our members now know, membership must be current in order to register for any SCVA event. The advantage to you as members is that when you register for a festival ... wait for it ... you log in and your information is already in the system!!!! The registration form is already populated with most of your information....so you don't have to type it in yourself!!!!!! How easy is that?!?!?!?!

Open Festivals as of December 15, 2017

Junior High/Middle School Festivals

Day	Date	Time	Site	City	Level	Type	Host
Thurs	3/15	10:00 am	Las Flores MS	Las Flores	Open	Open	Elena Benefield
Fri	3/16	9:30 am	Raymond Cree MS Sightreading	Palm Springs	Open	Clinic	Jeffrey Kopasz
Tues	3/27	9:00 am	Menifee Valley MS	Menifee	Open	Open	Tom Oliver
Tues	3/27	12:30 pm	Menifee Valley MS	Menifee	Open	Clinic	Tom Oliver
Thurs	4/12	9:00 am	James L. Day MS	Temecula	Open	Open	Patricia Halic
Thurs	4/12	10:00 am	TeWinkle MS Sightreading	Costa Mesa	Open	Open	Timothy McFadden
Thurs	4/12	1:00 pm	James L. Day MS	Temecula	Open	Open	Patricia Halic
Fri	4/20	10:00 am	Spring View MS Sightreading	Huntington Beach	Open	Open	Marcelo Martinez
Thurs	5/24	10:00 am	William and Jane Bristol Civic Aud.	Bellflower	Open	Open	Jae Shu

High School Festivals

Day	Date	Time	Site	City	Level	Type	Host
Tues	3/06	1:00 pm	Lanternman Auditorium	La Canada	Adv	Open	Jeff Brookey
Wed	3/07	6:00 pm	Montebello HS Sightreading	Montebello	Adv	Open	Jessie Flasschoen
Tues	3/13	7:00 pm	Cal Lutheran Univ.	Thousand Oaks	Open	Open	Janna Santangelo
Thurs	3/15	4:00 pm	Rio Hondo College	Whittier	Adv	Open	Kellori Dower
Tues	3/20	10:00 am	Fallbrook HS Sightreading	Fallbrook	Open	Clinic	Heather Smith
Wed	3/21	9:00 am	Mission Viejo HS	Mission Viejo	Adv	Open	Sarah Norris
Wed	3/21	9:00 am	Murrieta Mesa HS Sightreading	Murrieta	Open	Clinic	Bradley Allen
Thurs	3/22	10:00 am	Shadow Hills HS Sightreading	Indio	Open	Mixed	Kaylon McGee
Fri	3/23	9:00 am	Citrus Hill HS	Perris	Open	Open	Laura Cook
Fri	3/23	4:00 pm	Los Osos HS Sightreading	Rancho Cucamonga	Open	Open	Bethany Encina
Thurs	3/29	10:00 am	Fontana HS	Fontana	Open	Open	Jennifer Esquivel
Mon	4/09	9:00 am	Rim of the World HS	Lake Arrowhead	Open	Clinic	Abir Naim
Mon	4/10	6:00 pm	Eastside HS	Palmdale	Open	Open	Daniel Martensen
Wed	4/11	9:30 am	Beaumont HS	Beaumont	Open	Open	John Fieldhouse
Wed	4/11	10:00 am	Bloomington HS	Bloomington	Open	Women	Ryan Duckworth
Thurs	4/12	10:00 am	Bloomington HS	Bloomington	Open	Open	Ryan Duckworth
Wed	4/18	12:00 pm	Palomar College	San Marcos	Adv	Open	John Russell
Thurs	4/19	6:00 pm	First Church of Downey Sightreading	Downey	Open	Open	Robert Peterson
Fri	4/20	7:00 pm	St. Genevieve Catholic Church	Panorama City	Open	Mixed	Rafael Cabezas Jr.
Tues	4/24	4:00 pm	El Monte HS	El Monte	Open	Open	Joel Whisler
Tues	5/01	7:00 pm	Thacher School	Ojai	Open	Open	William Wagner
Thurs	5/03	10:00 am	Westridge School	Pasadena	Open	Open	Paul Stephenson
Thurs	5/03	6:30 pm	Redondo Union HS Sightreading	Redondo Beach	Open	Open	Kelly Self
Mon	5/21	9:00 am	Gabrelino HS	San Gabriel	Novice	Open	David Pitts
Mon	5/21	1:30 pm	Gabrelino HS	San Gabriel	Adv	Chamber	David Pitts
Mon	5/21	6:30 pm	West HS	Torrance	Open	Open	Antone Rodich
Thurs	5/24	1:00 pm	William and Jane Bristol Auditorium	Bellflower	Open	Open	Carolyn Kelley



Programming Repertoire for the Choirs You Have

Molly Peters, Secretary



One of the biggest mistakes we make as choral directors is choosing repertoire for our ensembles that is too. Dang. HARD. Everyone falls into this trap at some point in their careers, but young teachers, fresh out of college (singing amazing repertoire with their ensembles and traveling the world) seem to stumble into it most easily. Here is a trick I learned about festival music and choral concerts in general: You don't have to perform the hardest repertoire to earn a Superior rating, or to earn the respect and adoration of your audience. You just have to know at *what* level your choir can perform, and choose excellent repertoire for *that* level. I have two high school ensembles (I split my time between a high school and a junior high). Both of them are at a medium-advanced level. I will take ANY kid at my school who wants to sing. I audition about 85% of the kids in the spring for the following year, but there are always a handful that just show up in August (and I welcome them with open arms!). We do a lot of music literacy and sight-reading (I Heart Takadimi and Solfege!) in the fall. Students who come from my junior high program or are returning customers for the high school have lots of experience sight reading, but again, there are always about 15% of my new kids who are starting at a zero. We spend the fall working on the rules of excellent singing (vowels, breath, placement, etc) as well as literacy (theory and sight-reading). That allows us to be prepared for festival in the spring. When January rolls around, the group is tight and gelling, and they are (mostly) reading at a very high level for junior high and high school students. I am honest with myself about what my students can do successfully—in fact, I pride myself on my ability to choose repertoire.

Below are some of my favorite pieces that you won't break your back teaching (and your kids will love singing them, too!). There is something to be learned from each one of them: rhythms/ostinatos, intervals/solfege, singing a long line, shaping, history...you get the point. Find at least one thing to teach your students through your repertoire. Many of these titles are available in a variety of voicing, so be sure and check JW Pepper (or your sheet music source) to see your options. Because I teach 7-12 grade, this list includes some of both, and many of the titles are interchangeable by level. Additionally, many of these titles are from the SCVA Festival Music list. You'll need to log in with your SCVA membership information to see the list, but you can sort by level, voicing and title. It's a valuable resource that you all should be using!

2 part/JHS/Treble

- Purcell, "Sound the Trumpet," Lawson-Gould. A lovely duet for junior high (unchanged) or high school women
- Haydn, "Gloria" from Heilegemesse, Walton. Same as above, and both are great pieces of historical repertoire.
- Naplan, "Al Shlosha", Boosey & Hawkes. Partner melodies, optional solo. Students love singing this one!
- Ramsey, "Three Quotes by Mark Twain," Santa Barbara. Three short, contrasting pieces made up of clever Mark Twain quotes. A great way to teach intervals, meter, and introduce the wit and wisdom of Mark Twain to your students.
- Papoulis, "There is Peace," Boosey & Hawkes. You can't go wrong with ANY Papoulis piece for junior high or beginning high school (SSA/SATB) ensemble. It's solid stuff.
- trad. Arr. Shaw, "Old Joe Clark," Hal Leonard. (contribution by Matt Netto)

3 part Treble/JHS/SSA

- Baker, "The Storm is Passing Over," Boosey & Hawkes. Girls LOVE singing Gospel. You will need a strong solo or small section for this piece, but your girls will absolutely shine while singing it.
- Oguro, "Hotaru Koi," Theodore Presser. A great way to teach ostinato and solfege in minor, and build confidence with a cappella singing
- Casals, "Nigra Sum," Tetra/Continuo Music Corp. A Latin text that can teach line and breath control.
- Allaway, "Sahayta," Shawnee. Easy three part featuring solos or small groups, repetitive text. An audience and singer favorite!
- Petker, "Come to Me, O My Love," Hinshaw. Partner melodies, easy to solfege, lovely overall mood!

3 part Mixed/SATB

- Koepeke, "And Nature Smiled," Santa Barbara. Great for solfege and teaching line and shaping.
- Johnson "Stars I Shall Find," Heritage. Beautiful text that can spark great discussion, melodies can be taught using solfege.
- Butler "Give Me the Splendid Silent Sun," Hinshaw. This has been one of my standards since I started teaching. The text by Whitman is set beautifully, and the contrasting sections are an extra challenge.
- Tate, "Hold Me, Rock Me," Pavane. Opportunity for tenor solo, gorgeous layering of ostinato and easy melodies.
- Vecchio arr. Robinson, "Fa Una Canzone," Alfred. Renaissance music that is fun to sing and accessible!

Do you have favorites and go-to pieces for intermediate groups? Do you have a theory or sight-reading system that you love? Let's continue the conversation on the SCVA Facebook group!



REASONS TO STOP BY THE SCVA BOOTH AT CASMEC...

Reception Details

Meet the team

Answered Questions

Networking

Chocolate



**MCCORMICK
& SCHMICK'S**
SEAFOOD & STEAKS



2018 – 2020 SCVA Executive Board Elections

Rodger Guerrero, SCVA Past President

Advocate (noun): from Latin advocatus, “one summoned [to give evidence];” derives from Latin advocāre, “to call or summon to;” 1. A person who argues for a cause; supporter or defender; 2. A person who pleads in another’s behalf; an intercessor.



We are all choral advocates summoned “to give evidence” in a multi-tiered manner. Every child deserves a chance to sing. We must continually communicate to all around us that choral music participation benefits are boundless and significant. When our voices seem individually insignificant, we must leap aboard the advocacy train of organizations that effectively plead on our behalf. As the only California choral organization *dedicated to the advancement of vocal music at all grade levels in the schools of Southern California*, SCVA is certainly an effectual advocacy organization.

SCVA sponsors a multitude of activities that benefit SoCal school choral directors and singers. These activities are planned and coordinated by volunteers who give so much time and energy to the choral music cause. My final act as SCVA Past President is to present a list of proposed officers for the 2018-2020 term. The list must be approved by the current Board at the end of April and voted upon by you – the SCVA membership – in early May. As choral music advocates, all of us should want to volunteer to become members of the SCVA Executive Board. *All current SCVA members are, in fact, eligible.* Those who are sincerely interested should contact me for more information. After fourteen years of service, I understand well what each office requires. The names, bios, and pictures of those who decide to run for an office will be placed on the May 2018 ballot.

Others must see us to believe us. We must all become strong choral music “activocates.” Choral music advocacy cannot succeed without a *collective commitment to active and visible participation in the choral organizations that acutely benefit all of us.* There is no finer choral music advocacy organization than SCVA, and there is no finer group of advocates than the SCVA Executive Board.



SCVA Regional High School Honor Choir

Crystal Stone, Vice President I, Senior High Honor Choir
Matthew Netto, Vice President II, Senior High Honor Choir

What a wonderful honor choir experience we shared this past November! **Thank you** to everyone who helped to make this event such a success; we certainly could not provide this high-quality event without our members and our musical community. **Thank you** to our fantastic conductors, accompanists, the University of Redlands, choir hosts, rehearsal conductors, Fullerton College and our 46 audition judges and 12 site hosts. From auditions to culminating performance, we had **over 55 directors** sign up to volunteer their time with things like registration, part checks, ticketing, chaperoning and more. Most importantly, thank YOU for the brilliant work you do to inspire and educate your students everyday in the classroom. Your teaching and involvement in SCVA is what affords these singers the opportunity to take part in this event. We look forward to another great honor choir experience next year and hope you will participate once again, or give it a go for the first time, next year!

It takes a whole village to raise a child. -Igbo and Yoruba (Nigeria) Proverb

SCVA Regional High School Honor Choir 2017

HIGHLIGHTS



Dr. Sara Shakliyan, Joseph Schubert & Jill Brenner
ACCOMPANISTS



Dr. Joshua Palkki, Dr. Jaclyn Johnson and Bruce Rogers
CONDUCTORS



For more pictures, go to <https://www.flickr.com/photos/phototidbits/albums/72157689814403115>

PHOTO CREDITS: Joanne Wilborn and Marlyn Woo

Southern California Vocal Association

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www.scvachoral.org / email: scvamail@yahoo.com



IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

Diva Day	February 3, 2018
SCVA Reception at CASMEC	February 15, 2018
SCVA Exhibitor's Booth at CASMEC	February 15-17, 2018
California All-State Honor Choirs at CASMEC	February 15-17, 2018
Festival Application Deadline	March 1, 2018
CMEA State Choral Festival	March 8, 2018
Vocal Jazz & A Cappella Festival/Clinic	March 9, 2018
Show Choir Spectacular	May 5, 2018