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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA VOCAL ASSOCIATION
AUGUST, 2019

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 your 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 Cacophony 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!

JumpStart - August 24, **Fall In-Service** - September 27, **Choral 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*

POST IN YOUR
CLASSROOM
TODAY!

DIRECTORS MUST
BE A MEMBER OF
SCVA – RENEW
TODAY!

START PREPARING
FOR AUDITIONS
TODAY!

YOUR SINGERS
WILL COME HOME
AS INSPIRED
LEADERS! GROWTH
FOR THE WHOLE
CHOIR!

HAVE QUESTIONS?

**MATTHEW NETTO &
MICHAEL USHINO**

High School Honor Choir, VPs

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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. 14th.** 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

REGISTER AT WWW.SCVACHORAL.ORG

EARLY REGISTRATION ENDS
SEPTEMBER 17TH

PARTICIPANTS NEED NOT BE SCVA MEMBERS.
BRING ALONG A CHORAL COLLEAGUE!

Cristian Grases



Sessions:

Reaching and Teaching Them All
My Experience Teaching in Diverse
Socio-Economic Student Populations.

Performance Practice in Latin
American Choral Music

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:
 - o Overall years of experience of the singers in your ensemble
 - o Difficulty level of repertoire
 - o Hours per week spent in rehearsal
 - o 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:



Winner of 2019
DOWNBEAT
award

**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](https://www.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!

2019 FESTIVAL EVALUATIONS	Yes	No
Ratings from adjudicators were fair/accurate:	95%	5%
Comments from adjudicators were constructive & helpful:	98%	2%
Would you attend this festival again or recommend it to others:	98%	2%
Total Evaluations Received: 105		

2019 Most Frequently Performed Festival Repertoire

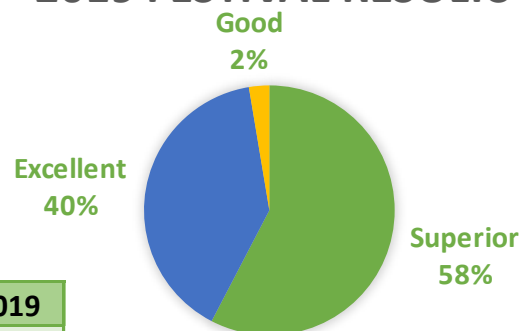
In order by most frequently performed

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

FESTIVAL RATINGS	2017		2018*		2019	
	Amt	%	Amt	%	Amt	%
Superior	285	70%	209	48%	242	58%
Excellent	119	29%	216	49%	167	40%
Good	3	1%	13	3%	11	2%
Total	407	100%	438	100%	420	100%
<i>*In 2018, scoring on the adjudication form was revised. Numeric scores replaced letter grades.</i>						

FESTIVAL SIGHT-READING RATINGS						
	2017		2018*		2019	
	Amt	%	Amt	%	Amt	%
Superior	32	46%	59	73%	89	66%
Excellent	19	28%	13	16%	39	29%
Good	9	13%	5	6%	7	5%
Participant	9	13%	4	5%	0	0%
Total	69	100%	81	100%	135	100%

2019 FESTIVAL RESULTS



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

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

Southern California Vocal Association

Los Osos High School 6001 Milliken Ave, Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91737

www.scvachoral.org / email: info@scvachoral.org



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