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SCVA NEWS

Southern California Vocal Association September, 2016

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Karen Garrett

But this sorrow and rage will not inflame us to seek retribution; rather they will inflame our art. Our music will never again be quite the same. This will be our reply to violence: to make music more intensely, more beautifully, more devotedly than ever before.

.....Leonard Bernstein

Greetings from your new SCVA President! I will have large shoes to fill after the inspiring and effective leadership of Rodger Guerrero, now serving as our Past President and newly appointed Choral Director at Pasadena City College.

I'd also like to welcome our new SCVA Executive Board members; Matt Netto (V.P. II of High School Honor Choirs), Rachelle Randeem (President Elect), and Molly Peters (new position Secretary). We are so happy to have these hard working choral directors serve the choral community with their time and talents. In addition, we must say good-bye to our devoted Past President Mark Henson. Mark has served this board and our choral community for many years, in many roles. We will miss his endless hours of service, kindness and leadership.

As you are all building your calendars for the new-year - finding educational and inspiring events for you and your students - please be sure to look into all the wonderful opportunities SCVA has to offer. Here's a month by month guide. Be sure to check out our up-dated website for details on each event: **September** - High School Honor Choir Auditions begin, **October** - Fall In-Service to renew and recharge your choral spirit, **November** - High School Honor Choir, **January** - Solo Vocal Competition begins & Jr. High Honor Choir auditions, **February** - Young Men's Harmony Festival & Diva Day, **March thru May** - Jr and Sr. High Choral Festivals, **March** - Vocal Jazz/A-Cappella Festival, **May** - Show Choir Spectacular & Jr. High School Honor Choir.

If you haven't renewed your membership yet or are new to SCVA, remember that our 78 year old organization provides more quality musical opportunities and events than any other professional vocal organization in Southern California. Last year SCVA served over 16,500 students and their directors in Southern California. Don't miss out - sign-up or renew TODAY!

I saw the above quote on Facebook this week - great place for newsletter material. Leonard Bernstein wrote this in a speech after the shooting death of his friend, President John F. Kennedy in 1963. In the text of the speech Bernstein shares that his respect and admiration for JFK came from Kennedy's belief in the power of Learning and Reason. That learning and reason cannot coexist with the hatred and rage shown in the violence so prevalent today. As teachers we have the opportunity everyday to nurture both learning and reason in our classrooms. Celebrate differences, discuss solutions, and instill tolerance. Music is the perfect means to deliver this message.

"...sorrow and rage will inflame our art." This school year I will enter my classroom with a renewed mission to use choral music to teach my students tolerance, kindness, and a love of learning and reason. I will help them to channel their emotions into the passion and beauty of the choral art. It's a tall order but this will be my contribution, my response to the violence. - "Our music will never again be quite the same."

SCVA Regional High School Honor Choir 2016

Crystal Stone, VP- Senior High Honor Choir

Matthew Netto, VP II- Senior High Honor Choir

Teachers - Please encourage your eligible high school students to audition for the SCVA Regional Honor Choirs this fall. It promises to be an exceptionally musical experience that they will not want to miss! See what other students have said about the experience below.



For complete and detailed information about the SCVA Regional Honor Choir Policies, Procedures and Process, visit www.scvachoral.org

Honor Choir Dates At-A-Glance

August 26-September 16	Online Audition Application Open (\$10 audition fee) Payment and Application Deadline: Midnight on 9/16/16
September 20	Audition times/locations posted and confirmed online
September 24 or October 1	Regional Auditions at various Southern California Sites
October 7	Honor Choir Results posted online (\$90 participation fee if accepted)
October 29	First Honor Choir Rehearsal at Fullerton College (mandatory)
November 18-19	Honor Choir Weekend at University of Redlands (mandatory) Performance at 7pm on Saturday

Honor Choir Conductors

Men's Choir:	Dr. Christopher Aspaas, Texas Christian University
Mixed Choir:	Dr. Shawna Cross Stewart, Biola University
Women's Choir:	Dr. Joseph Modica, University of Redlands





A Snapshot of the SCVA Honor Choir Policies, Procedures and Process

(For a complete listing, go to http://scvachoral.org/honor_choir.html)

If selected for the 2016 Honor Choir you **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.
- A student must be enrolled in his/her school's choral program in order to be eligible for participation in Honor Choir. The **Sponsoring Teacher must be a current member of SCVA** (renew or register at www.scvachoral.org today!).
- Students are responsible for travel to and from the rehearsals and must be chaperoned by a parent or teacher if staying overnight.

The Audition (100 points)

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

- **SOLO:** (40 points) Prepare one Italian 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.
- **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.
- 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. 9-11 2017 in San Jose, CA). Be sure you have checked availability for **ALL** dates.
- 3) Pay \$10 Audition Fee PayPal, school check or money order (no personal checks accepted). **No student will be given an audition time without payment by Sept. 16th.** Mail School Checks (Payable to SCVA) only to: Westview High School, Crystal Stone, 13500 Camino Del Sur, San Diego, CA 92129.

**SCVA FALL IN-SERVICE:
A DAY OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Friday, October 21, 2016

9:00am — 4:00pm

**Placentia Presbyterian Church
849 N. Bradford Avenue**

Lori-Marie Rios: *Quarterback or Coach: Which One Are You? A Guide for Injecting Excellence Into Each Rehearsal You Lead & Every Choral Ensemble You Teach*

Julie Corallo & Kathy Blumer: *Enhancing Musicality Through Movement, & Backwards Planning for the Elementary Choral Rehearsal*

Desiree LaVertu: *A Natural Approach to the Vocal Instrument*

SCVA Adjudicator Training Workshop

Cost

\$60: Early Registration: Deadline - September 30th

\$75: Late Registration/walk-ins (no guarantee of receiving music packet)

\$15: Collegiate Students (Includes SCVA Membership)

Register At:
www.scvachoral.org

Participants do not have to be current SCVA members, so please feel free to bring non-SCVA-member choral colleagues with you!

Southern California Vocal Association

2016 SCVA Festival Adjudication Summary

by Jennifer Stanley, Vice President of Festival Adjudication

FESTIVAL ATTENDANCE	2014	2015	2016
Number of SCVA Festivals	54	61	59
Number of Directors Attending Festivals	196	208	210
Number of Choirs Attending Festivals	372	409	430
Number of Students Attending Festivals	14,552	15,664	15,867
% of SCVA Membership Attending Festivals	60%	55%	58%

FESTIVAL RATINGS	2014		2015		2016	
Average Rating	3.655		3.681		3.699	
	Amt	%	Amt	%	Amt	%
Superior	220	62%	237	60%	270	69%
Excellent	135	37%	152	39%	111	29%
Good	3	1%	3	1%	7	2%
TOTAL	358	100%	392	100%	389	100%

Superior = 3.65-4.0; Excellent = 3.0-3.64; Good = 2.0-2.99

Many thanks to our festival hosts and adjudicators! Special thanks to Nancy Ludwig, Melva Morrison, and Mark Freedkin for their tireless work in organizing festivals! Thanks also to Jefferson Diep, Martin Phung, and Steven Chuong for their assistance with festival data processing.

FESTIVAL SIGHTREADING RATINGS				
Rating	2015		2016	
	Amt	%	Amt	%
Superior	15	54%	20	34%
Excellent	7	25%	21	36%
Good	2	7%	10	17%
Fair	3	11%	5	8%
Poor	1	3%	3	5%
TOTAL	28	100%	59	100%

FESTIVAL EVALUATIONS - 2016	YES	NO
The adjudicator gave ratings that were fair/accurate.	246	22
The adjudicator gave ratings that were too low.	21	247
The adjudicator gave ratings that were too high.	20	246
Comments for improvement were constructive and helpful.	249	19
Was the facility appropriate for this event?	124	10
Would you attend this festival again or recommend it to others?	123	11

The Most Frequently Performed Festival Literature of 2016

A Boy and a Girl by Eric Whitacre
 Alma Llanera by Pedro Gutierrez, arr. Angel Sauce
 Ave Verum Corpus by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart *
 Beati Omnes by Richard Ewer
 Bonse Aba by Victor Johnson
 Cantar! by Jay Althouse
 Cantate Domino by Giuseppe Pitoni *
 Cantate Hodie by Mary Lynn Lightfoot
 Come to Me, O My Love by Allan Robert Petker *
 Daemon Irreperit Callidus by Gyorgy Orban *
 Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel by Roger Emerson *
 Dirait-on by Morten Lauridsen *
 Elijah Rock by Jester Hairston *
 Fa Una Canzona by Orazio Vecchi *
 Festival Sanctus by John Leavitt
 For the Beauty of the Earth by John Rutter *
 "Gloria in excelsis" (Heiligmesse) by Haydn, arr. Robinson *

Goodnight, Dear Heart by Dan Forrest
 Hold Fast to Dreams by Susan LaBarr
 Homeward Bound by Keen, arr. Althouse
 I Am Not Yours by David Childs *
 Il est bel et bon by Pierre Passereau
 In This Ancient House (Momoshiki Ya) by Ruth Morris Gray
 J'Entends le Moulin by Emily Crocker *
 Joshua! by Kirby Shaw
 Muie Rendera by C.A. Pinto Fonseca
 Salmo 150 by Ernani Aguiar *
 Shut De Do by Randy Stonehill
 Sicut Cervus by Palestrina *
 Sing for Joy by Handel, arr. Spevacek
 The Battle of Jericho by Moses Hogan
 The Storm is Passing Over by Tindley, arr. Baker
 Ubi Caritas by Ola Gjeilo

* SCVA Recommended Festival Music List

Website Update

Mark Freedkin, SCVA Webmaster



High School Honor Choir Audition Application

We are now accepting on-line Audition Applications for this year's High School Honor Choirs. Your students can follow the link on the SCVA Home Page to submit their audition application. To help streamline the process, please ensure that all your students use one consistent e-mail address for you. Then, please remind your students to enter your e-mail address accurately into the on-line application form, or you may receive incomplete or multiple lists of the singers from your school who submitted an audition application when you are asked to approve those singers.

More About Your E-mail Address

When you register as a Festival Host or Festival Participant, please be sure to use the same e-mail address that you used when you entered or renewed your Annual SCVA Membership. That way, you will be able to view those registrations when you login to the Members-Only page on the website.

Automated E-mail Broadcast Messages

A number of automated e-mail confirmation and broadcast messages are routinely sent from our website to choral directors for various events. Please ensure that your e-mail system can accept incoming messages from "**admin@scvachoral.org**", so you can receive all of those messages. In some cases, you may need to contact your school district's network administrators to prevent those messages from being incorrectly rejected as SPAM (unsolicited junk e-mail).

Please also be aware that if you simply reply to any of those automated broadcast messages, your response will be sent to me (as webmaster), and I must then forward your message the originator. For more efficient communication, please do not reply directly to any of those messages. Instead, please send your e-mail response directly to the original sender's e-mail address.

Vocal Jazz and A-Cappella News

Christine Tavares-Mocha, VP-Vocal Jazz

Welcome Back Everyone! I hope you all had a relaxing and amazing summer. There are two opportunities I want to make sure you are aware of in the coming year to share with your students.

SCVA Vocal Jazz and A-Cappella Festival

Friday March 10, 2017. Stay tuned for more information in our next newsletter!

2017 California All State Jazz Choir Audition Window - Now Open!

10-14 students will be selected to sing under the direction of Roger Treece at the 2017 California All-State Music Educators Conference in San Jose, CA on February 15-18, 2017. For more information, visit cbda.org and click on auditions. The 2017 director, Roger Treece is a composer, arranger, producer, and singer who creates music that combines traditional classical elements with jazz, funk, gospel, and world. Roger Treece was associate producer, arranger and singer on Josh Groban's #1 selling album, ALL THAT ECHOES. Roger is also the mastermind behind Bobby McFerrin's ground-breaking release VOCABuLarieS, a collection of seven extended choral works, hailed as "a masterpiece," "the future of choral music," and "a new standard for choral recording."

Variety is the Spice of Life (and Festivals)

Melva Morrison, VP/II-Festivals



Summer is ending, school is starting, rooms are set up, choir lists are checked, students are coming, and this article is about festivals – what?!?!?!? **YES**, now is the time to consider one of the most important aspects of your choir season (I think we have a “season”, although, unlike sports, ours is from August until June!). Let’s think about variety in two ways:

Variety in literature performed at festivals - The most important decision we make as choral directors is repertoire. Have you thought about what your “ideal” festival set will be for this year for each of your choirs? Remember that we are the experts and our students anxiously anticipate what challenges we will give them. Repertoire choices need to reflect a variety of genre, historical time periods, style, tempi, a capella, interesting instrumentation, tone color, and mood. There is a wealth of contemporary musical choices, but let’s ensure that our musicians experience gems from earlier periods of music. Please be reminded that one of the requirements for literature (at least for an “advanced” SCVA festival) is representation of different periods of musical history with two languages represented.

Variety in festivals offered – We have the opportunity to provide different types of festivals; however, we **NEED** more choices, specifically, several more advanced, women’s choir, men’s choir, and novice festivals. It’s so rewarding to have your highest level choir at a festival with similar groups and your women’s choir enjoying women’s voices. Won’t you consider hosting an SCVA festival this year and think about providing a variety of choices?

VARIETY in literature and festivals – it’s up to us. Deadline to host a festival is November 1st.

Start your school year off right by taking advantage of all SCVA has to offer!

Join **DON'T MISS OUT!**
or renew • Festivals
• Honor Choir
• Community
• Professional Development
...and much more!
TODAY!



www.scvachoral.org

On-Line SCVA Membership Renewal

Like us on
Facebook!



Southern California Vocal Association

Santiago High School Attn: Karen Garrett

1395 Foothill Parkway, Corona, CA 92881

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



IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

HS Honor Choir Online Registration Opens	August 26, 2016
HS Honor Choir Online Registration Closes	September 16, 2016
HS Honor Choir Audition Times Posted Online	September 20, 2016
HS Honor Choir Audition Date-Variou Sites	September 24, 2016
SCVA Fall In-Service Early Registration Deadline	September 30, 2016
HS Honor Choir Audition Date- Various Sites	October 1, 2016
SCVA Fall In-Service	October 21, 2016
HS Honor Choir Rehearsal @ Fullerton College	October 29, 2016
Festival Host Application Deadline	November 1, 2016
HS Honor Choir Weekend @ University of Redlands	November 18-19, 2016
Diva Day	February 4, 2017
Young Men's Harmony Festival	February 11, 2017
California All-State Vocal Jazz Ensemble	February 15-18, 2017
SCVA Vocal Jazz and A-Cappella Festival	March 10, 2017