

SCVA NEWS

Southern California Vocal Association December, 2013

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

John Hendricks

I found such joy listening to the rehearsals and performances of our High School Honor Choirs on November 22 and 23. Dr. Amanda Quist of Westminster Choir College, Dr. Rob Istad from Cal State Fullerton, and Dr. Jeffrey Benson from San José State were deeply inspiring in their work with our students, and I'd venture to say that the concert was magical for those in attendance. I'd like to thank our truly extraordinary Vice Presidents of High School Honor Choirs, Tina Glander Peterson and Karen Garrett, who have worked tirelessly over the past year, giving so generously of their personal time and sharing their superb talents and formidable expertise to guide this exceptional event for our singers. We are all deeply in their debt (!), as their efforts truly can't be quantified—but our students will remember their honor choir experiences for a lifetime. These extraordinary educators really have "raised the bar" for all who will follow them in their positions, and it has been such a pleasure and privilege working with them on our SCVA Board.

I initially and immediately fell in love with SCVA because of our Honor Choirs and the camaraderie in music making that the unique experience provided for my own students a few years ago when my school first participated. I was captivated by the instant friendships and invaluable network of incredible professionals that were immediately available amongst the committed members who were there to help with logistics. Today, I appreciate our colleagues more than ever, and I feel truly fortunate to learn from them every time we interact in this same spirited and friendly setting that surrounds the Honor Choirs—and all the SCVA events I have attended-- to this day.

I quickly learned that SCVA is about much more than honor choirs, as we officially support every "level" of music making in our educational choral programs. Those relationships that our members cultivate are so very important to the success of our profession, our evolution as teachers, and the educational and artistic prosperity of our students. We need you to get involved! SCVA's sole, official mission is to support choral music in schools. As many of you know, we offer adjudicated festivals that are appropriate for a variety of ability and age levels—beginning through advanced-- and that we are truly committed to the professional growth of our members and to our students having a superb experience at every one of our gatherings. As we look toward the future from this vantage of our 75th anniversary, we need you, more than ever, to share your expertise as advocates, volunteers, festival hosts, judges, and potential board members. We also need you to help us lead the charge in Sacramento in conjunction with the great work that CMEA has guided through a coalition of instrumental and choral organizations in our legislature through Stand Up 4 Music.

SCVA offers the only large scale solo and ensemble competition in Southern California. The Vocal Jazz and Contemporary A Cappella Festival in March will appeal to a wide variety of students and professionals. We have the Middle School Honor Choir, Show Choir Competition, and partnerships with the exciting Barbershop Harmony Festival for men and Diva Day for women. Please visit scvachoral.org early and often for updates.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT (continued from Page 1)

John Hendricks

We are also a new co-sponsor of the CMEA/ACDA/SCVA Choral Leadership Academy to be held February 21-22 during the ACDA Western Division Convention in Santa Barbara, and are so excited about this collaboration between our associations. Do encourage your students to participate in this once-in-a-lifetime experience to work with Dr. Edie Copley (NAU), Dr. Chris Peterson (CSU Fullerton), Dr. Jonathan Talberg (CSU Long Beach), and other leading choral directors from the Western Division of ACDA. Please visit acdacal.org to register.

I have repeatedly been strongly reminded of the great responsibility we have as educators to be the best advocates for our programs and students. We are the “front line”, and our interactions with each other are a microcosm of what needs to happen throughout our profession in California for the arts in education to thrive, especially as we begin to see improvement in some budgets. For the sake of our students, we must support each other in sharing our knowledge, opening our classrooms to colleagues, and giving back to our profession. As we think about how we can best be of service, we might reflect on the quote that I have heard repeatedly from honor choir students, “this was the best experience I ever had.” That, to me, is a powerful validation of the great work that our members do every day, in preparing their singers to audition and helping students at all levels to build upon successes, learn from disappointments, prosper in the classroom, and be a part of the vibrant choral community in Southern California. Let us embrace and foster self-sufficient musicianship in our students, and celebrate those educators who laud the importance of personal responsibility, innovation, and professionalism in the work of our choristers and colleagues.

As this is an election year for the SCVA board, I invite you to get involved with your organization however you can. We need vibrant opinions in our midst, and we call for your volunteerism. As always, I encourage and welcome your feedback. Thank you so very much for your support of SCVA. I hope to see you soon and often.



2013-2014 Solo/Small Ensemble Festival and Competition

Jeff Huls, Vocal Solo Competition

We are well on our way to having another wonderful solo/small ensemble festival season. Please consider having your students participate in one of the following ways:

Classical Solo - competition/ratings or comments only

Musical Theater solo - ratings or comments only

Small Ensemble (madrigal, barbershop, duet, trio, etc) - rating or comments only

The benefits of encouraging individual student responsibility through the teaching of a solo or small ensemble will come back multiple fold in leadership, determination, work ethic and musicality in your larger choral ensembles.

Registration is only available online at www.scvachoral.org. The registration fees are \$25 for solo participation and \$35 for ensemble. Remember that payment must be made via Paypal or School/Booster check. No personal checks will be accepted. Registration will open on Dec 2nd and remain open through January 13, 2014.



Junior High Honor Choir

Molly Peters, VP-JH/MS Honor Choir



Fall is almost over and the winter choral season is upon us! A time of good food, family, cheer, and ENDLESS gigs, right?! Before the semester slips away, be sure to remind your singers to register online for the SCVA Junior High/9th grade honor choir auditions. See the box below for more information.

I decided this month to use my page to give you some fun resources that I use in my classroom to teach my junior high students not only how to sing, but basic music theory/literacy skills that are required for any audition.

SIGHT-READING: There are TONS of resources **online** if you are not sure where to send students for sight-reading practice. The **Florida Vocal Association** and **Middle Tennessee Vocal Association** both have some GREAT sight-reading examples online. Here are a few more passages for your students to practice:



The internet isn't the only place to find sight-reading examples. There are all kinds of great **Apps** for **iPhone**, **iPad**, and **Android** devices. Many are free, or have free versions. Some good ones include:

-**Sight Reader** by byteLLC

-**Prima Vista Sight Singing**

-**Music Tutor**

-**Relative Pitch** (Lite) is GREAT for ear training as a class or individually

-**Ear Trainer** plays scales and modes, good to practice at home if students do not have access to a piano.

-**Blob Chorus**—this is a fun way to do some ear training and tonal memory. You can adjust the number of blobs and have students sing back what they hear—up to 10 notes in a “phrase.”



SCVA Junior High/9th Grade Honor Choir auditions are OPEN! Please encourage your younger singers to consider auditioning for this wonderful choral opportunity. Our guest conductor is Ms. Desiree Fowler, Choral Director at Ramon C. Cortines High School for the Performing Arts. Registration can be done online at scvachoral.org. Auditions will be held in January at various locations around Southern California. A Paypal fee of \$5 is required for the audition. If you have any questions, please e-mail me at mepeters79@gmail.com. Audition requirements are:

1. Sing a major scale up and down (a cappella)
2. Sing a major triad and a minor triad (a cappella)
3. Sing an octave (a cappella)
4. Sight read one melodic and one rhythmic example
5. Sing tonal memory patterns
6. Sing "**America**"/"**My Country 'Tis of Thee**" (a cappella)



Experience the Ease of Online Festival Registration!

Nancy Ludwig and Melva Morrison, Festivals VPs

Registration to participate in festivals is now open online and we are excited to announce that we have over 60 festival offerings! This means even more fantastic opportunities for your choirs to attend an SCVA festival throughout the Southern California Region! There are both middle school and high school offerings at the Novice, Open, and Advanced levels.

The deadline to register for a festival is March 1, 2014, but early registration is encouraged. Since opening the list on November 4 we've had over 150 groups register for festivals, four festivals are already full and several more are getting close! Register as soon as you can to insure attendance at the festival location that works best for you. ***Late registrations will not be accepted.***

The cost per choir for each festival is \$100, and you may access the online registration form at <http://www.scvachoral.org/festivals.php>. Your registration is not complete until payment has been received. Any registrations that are not paid within 30 days from the initial date of submission will be cancelled. In addition, we cannot process your registration unless you are a current member of SCVA. If your membership is not current please purchase it online or add \$45 to your check amount.

Questions? Contact Nancy Ludwig or Melva Morrison. You may also visit the FAQ page at: http://www.scvachoral.org/festival_faq.html.

Junior High/Middle School Festivals

Day	Date	Time	Site	City	Level	Type	Host
Wed	3/19	10:00am	David Starr Jordan MS	Burbank	Open	Open	Christine DeMore
Wed	03/19	10:00am	SCU of Health Sciences	Whittier	Novice	Mixed	Jeremy Fletcher
Thurs	3/20	10:00am	Murrieta Mesa HS	Murrieta	Open	Clinic	Lavinia Tikasingh
Tues	4/01	9:00am	Menifee MS	Menifee	Open	Open	Tom Oliver
Tues	4/01	12:00pm	Menifee Valley MS	Menifee	Open	Open	Tom Oliver
Thurs	4/03	7:00pm	Thousand Oaks HS PAC	Thousand Oaks	Open	Open	Janna Wilhelm
Tues	4/08	9:00am	Oaks Christian School	Westlake Village	Open	Open	Edward Rouse
Tues	4/08	11:30am	Oaks Christian School	Westlake Village	Open	Open	Edward Rouse
Tues	4/15	9:00am	James L. Day MS	Temecula	Open	Open	Patricia Halic
Tues	4/15	1:00pm	James L. Day MS	Temecula	Open	Open	Patricia Halic
Wed	4/16	9:30am	Valley View MS	Simi Valley	Open	Open	Hilary Nordal
Wed	4/23	1:00pm	Marshall Fundamental	Pasadena	Open	Open	David Pitts
Thurs	5/01	10:00am	Las Flores MS	Las Flores	Open	Open	Elena Benefield
Tues	5/06	5:00pm	Monrovia HS	Monrovia	Open	Open	William Moore
Thurs	5/08	10:30am	Venice HS	Los Angeles	Open	Open	Wendy Kornbeck/Sarnoff
Thurs	5/08	6:30pm	Venice HS	Los Angeles	Open	Open	Wendy Kornbeck/Sarnoff
Fri	5/09	8:30am	Ramirez Intermediate	Eastvale	Novice	Clinic	Kyle Betts
Fri	5/09	11:00am	Manhattan Beach MS	Manhattan Beach	Adv	Open	Heather Gold
Fri	5/09	1:00pm	Ramirez Intermediate	Eastvale	Novice	Clinic	Kyle Betts
Wed	5/14	10:30am	Bernardo Yorba MS	Yorba Linda	Open	Mixed	Linda Nason
Thurs	5/15	10:00am	Pioneer MS MPR	Tustin	Open	Open	Victoria Cope
Fri	5/16	1:00pm	Seegerstrom Fundamental	Santa Ana	Open	Mixed	Greg Ellis
Wed	5/21	10:00am	Walnut Park MS	Huntington Park	Novice	Mixed	Rosa Lopez
Wed	5/21	10:00am	McGaugh Auditorium	Seal Beach	Open	Open	Rachelle Randeon
Thurs	5/22	9:30am	William and Jane Bristol Civic Auditorium	Bellflower	Open	Open	Jae Shu
Thurs	5/22	10:00am	McGaugh Auditorium	Seal Beach	Open	Open	Rachelle Randeon

High School Festivals

Day	Date	Time	Site	City	Level	Type	Host
Thurs	3/06	9:00am	Chaparral HS PAC	Temecula	Open	Open	Rob Hodo
Tues	3/11	8:00pm	Harvard-Westlake School	Studio City	Adv	Chamber	Rodger Guerrero
Wed	3/12	10:00am	Segerstrom HS	Santa Ana	Adv	Chamber	Mark Henson
Wed	3/12	2:00pm	Glendale HS	Glendale	Open	Open	Grace Sheldon-Williams
Thurs	3/20	10:00am	MMHS Gershwin PAC	Murrieta	Adv	Clinic	Jeffrey Kopasz
Thurs	3/20	10:00am	Beaumont USD	Beaumont	Novice	Open	John Fieldhouse
Fri	3/21	10:00am	Beckman PAC	Irvine	Adv	Open	Nancy Stuck
Fri	3/21	1:00pm	Beckman PAC	Irvine	Open	Open	Nancy Stuck
Tues	3/25	3:30pm	Baldwin Park PAC	Baldwin Park	Adv	Chamber	Suzanne Brookey
Wed	4/02	10:00am	Jurupa Hills HS Theatre	Fontana	Open	Open	Darrin Schuck
Wed	4/02	10:00am	Fallbrook HS	Fallbrook	Open	Open	Heather Smith
Tues	4/08	7:00pm	California Lutheran University	Thousand Oaks	Open	Open	Janna Wilhelm
Fri	4/11	9:00am	Jurupa Valley HS Theater	Mira Loma	Open	Women	Melva Morrison
Fri	4/11	10:00am	Arlington HS Theater	Riverside	Open	Open	Kelli Dower
Fri	4/11	12:30pm	Jurupa Valley HS Theater	Mira Loma	Open	Open	Melva Morrison
Fri	4/11	2:30pm	Garden Grove HS	Garden Grove	Open	Open	Samuel Nunez
Tues	4/15	10:00am	Segerstrom HS	Santa Ana	Open	Men	Mark Henson
Tues	4/15	6:30pm	Knight HS	Palmdale	Open	Mixed	Suzanne McGarraugh
Wed	4/16	10:00am	Segerstrom HS	Santa Ana	Open	Women	Mark Henson
Wed	4/16	7:00pm	EHS Ruth Chapman Theater	Chula Vista	Open	Open	Joseph DeMers
Thurs	4/17	9:00am	FUHS Auditorium	Fullerton	Open	Women/ Men	Scott Hedgecock
Thurs	4/17	10:00am	Segerstrom HS	Santa Ana	Open	Mixed	Mark Henson
Thurs	4/17	1:00pm	FUHS Auditorium	Fullerton	Adv	Open	Scott Hedgecock
Wed	4/23	9:30am	Marshall Fundamental School Auditorium	Pasadena	Open	Open	David Pitts
Thurs	4/24	4:00pm	Golden Valley HS Theater	Santa Clarita	Open	Open	Kerry Riccio Aguero
Thurs	4/24	6:00pm	Golden Valley HS Theater	Santa Clarita	Open	Open	Kerry Riccio Aguero
Tues	4/29	7:00pm	Thacher School	Ojai	Novice	Open	Bill Wagner
Tues	5/13	5:00pm	Monrovia HS	Monrovia	Adv	Open	William Moore
Mon	5/19	7:00pm	West Torrance HS	Torrance	Open	Open	Kathleen Jensen
Wed	5/21	2:00pm	Montebello HS	Montebello	Open	Open	Jessie Flasschoen
Wed	5/21	7:00pm	Montebello HS	Montebello	Adv	Open	Jessie Flasschoen
Wed	5/21	7:00pm	Loma Linda Academy - Chan Auditorium	Loma Linda	Open	Open	Jeremy Morada
Thurs	5/22	1:00pm	William and Jane Bristol Civic Auditorium	Bellflower	Open	Open	Carolyn Kelley

BYORD (Bring Your Own Recording Device)

We will continue with BYORD for the 2014 SCVA Festivals. BYORD allows recorded adjudicator comments to be provided to the director in any audio format the director desires, and the audio files are available immediately at the end of the festival. If you do not bring a recording device to your festival, you will receive two written adjudications. Some festival hosts may choose to provide digital recordings of adjudicator comments, but if your festival host does not, then plan to bring your own recording device. There are MANY devices that can serve this purpose, please email us if you need more information.



Young Women's and Young Men's Harmony Festivals

Mark Freedkin, VP of Barbershop Harmony Festivals



This year's Barbershop Harmony Festivals for Young Women and Young Men are starting to fill up, but we can still accommodate additional singers who wish to participate. Both events will be held at the Robert B. Moore Theater on the campus of Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa. The 9th annual "**Diva Day**" Young Women in Harmony Festival, sponsored by the Harborlites Chorus, will be held on Saturday, February 8, and the 14th annual "**Young Men's Harmony Festival**" will be held on Saturday, February 15, sponsored by the Masters of Harmony. Both of these events will provide a unique musical opportunity for your singers and will provide a positive boost to your choral music program.

Each event will consist of morning and afternoon clinics and rehearsals, followed by a public performance in the evening with the respective adult choruses. There will also be a clinic for music educators who would like to participate in a hands-on demonstration of how the barbershop style is taught and how it can be used to attract more young men and women into your program.

Although the early-registration deadline has passed, the application fee is still only **\$30** per singer. The sponsoring choruses will cover the remaining costs for all sheet music, practice CDs, rehearsal facilities, guest clinicians and performance costumes. Each singer will receive a commemorative t-shirt. We will also provide lunch and dinner for the singers, choral directors and any adult chaperones accompanying the singers.

Please download and print the appropriate application forms from the SCVA website. Complete and return the applications and forms, along with payment by cash, check or money order payable to **Harborlites** (for Diva Day) or **Masters of Harmony** (for the Young Men's Festival). Each event will be limited to a maximum of 250 participants, so be sure to submit your applications early. Note that these festivals are separate events, and you must send the appropriate forms and payments to the proper recipient.

Young Women's Festival Only:

In order to accommodate more schools, we are limiting the number of singers per school to twelve (12). Ideally we suggest 1-2 tenors, 3-4 leads, 2-3 baritones and 3-4 basses. This will allow you to perform the music as a group and use this group to help your other students learn the joy of singing four-part harmony, barbershop style. Send applications for all students you wish to participate, indicating those students beyond the initial 12 that you wish to put on the Waiting List. We will try to accommodate as many as we can.

Young Men's Festival Only:

There is no limit to the number of singers from your school who wish to participate, but please submit your applications early to ensure that all of your singers can be accommodated.

We look forward to receiving your applications. Please contact us if you have any questions about our festivals.

Diva Day (Young Women's Festival)

Karen Ridout- Harborlites Chorus
Home: (714) 847-0787 / Cell: (714) 319-2325
Email: kridout@socal.rr.com

Young Men's Harmony Festival

Mark Freedkin - Masters of Harmony
Home: (949) 559-9621 / Cell: (714) 357-1187
Email: mfreedkin@yahoo.com

VOCAL JAZZ

Christine Tavares, VP – Vocal Jazz

SCVA VOCAL JAZZ & CONTEMPORARY A-CAPELLA FESTIVAL

MARCH 9TH, 2014

Registration is filling up for our upcoming SCVA Jazz and A-capella Festival! You can now find the form to register at www.scvachoral.org. Come and learn from the top leading vocal jazz performers and college directors! Matt Falker and Fletcher Sheridan will be our adjudicators. Sign-ups are limited so don't delay!

CALIFORNIA ALL-STATE VOCAL JAZZ HONOR CHOIR

The deadline is quickly approaching for Jazz All State Honor Choir!! Even if you don't have a vocal jazz choir, there may be a student who you believe should audition!

I am very excited to tell you that the 2014 All-State Vocal Jazz Conductor this year is **Christine Guter, Vocal Jazz Director of Cal State Long Beach Cole Conservatory of Music!** I highly encourage you to have your students audition to have this incredible opportunity to work with this exceptional performer and incredible teacher!

I have included a link to the audition information below. The All-State Vocal Jazz Ensemble will be taking place at the CASMEC (California All State Music Education Conference) in Fresno. The dates are February 20-23, 2014. The students will be doing repertoire that is both challenging and leading edge, as well as working on improvisation, performance practice, and much more! It's going to be a great experience, and I encourage you to have your students submit an application.

CALIFORNIA ALL-STATE VOCAL JAZZ ENSEMBLE AUDITIONS

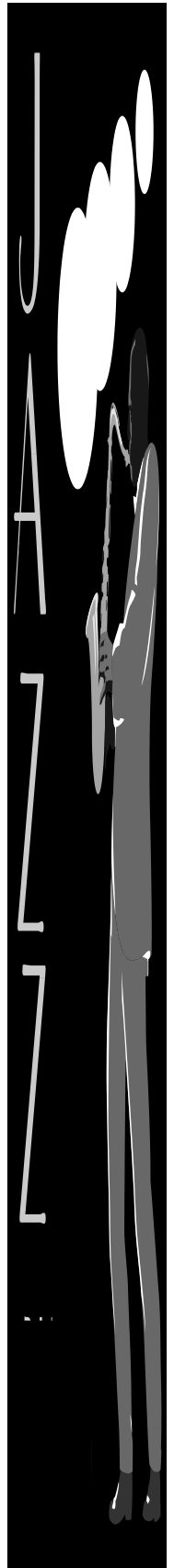
The deadline for application is **December 2, 2013**

Please go to this link to download the application form and information:

<http://www.cbda.org/index.php/auditions>.

Please feel free to contact me regarding your needs, concerns, and information regarding the All State Vocal Jazz auditions, I look forward to serving you!

Christine Tavares
Christinetavares33@gmail.com



Concentrated Teaching Part 4: The Power of “Warm-Up” (Resonance 3)

Jeffe Huls, Vocal Solo Competition

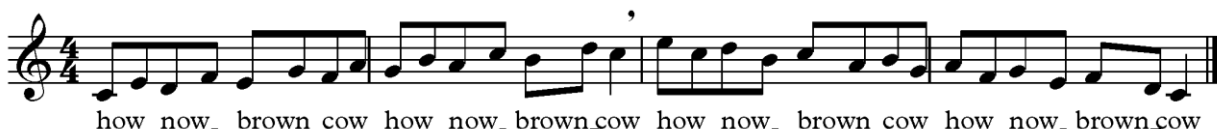
This month I will continue with my series involving vocalization of the choir. As we go forward into winter break, I invite you to look back into the archives and find some things that might spark you to look at your “warm-up” routine a little differently and find some fun and educational ideas to make it a little less “routine.” My daily vocalization regimen consists of a Body/Mind exercise (February 2013), Breath Exercises (April 2013), Resonance 1 Voice Placement (May 2013), Resonance 2 Middle Voice/Agility (September 2013). Rounding out the final step of resonance building are range extension exercises.

Oftentimes, I think we forget that range extension doesn't always just mean singing higher but also means singing into our low register as well and not just for the bass section. This part of the vocalization process is probably the most difficult because the choral voice teacher must have a keen ear to avoid vocal strain. With my beginning students I am pretty regimented with when I ask them to stop, and it is different for each section. With my more advanced ensembles I encourage the students to know their voices and use their ears and to drop out when appropriate. Even then, I still have to help sometimes. As you incorporate range extension exercises don't forget all the great teaching opportunities that you can incorporate: vowel modification, engaging the core, focusing the resonance, bridging the passaggio, etc. As the students become more aware of their voices and their bodies, they will become more confident in their high and low ranges. Also remember that with this part of the vocal range a little experimentation is allowed. Of course, we always want to sing with beautiful tone, but a couple of hiccups and voice cracking (particularly in boys) is normal as the young singers learn about their instruments. If you only allow the students to sing in their “comfortable” range, they will never develop a beautiful upper or lower range, severely limiting your repertoire choices. I also incorporate as much body movement as I can possibly muster for this part of the warm-up. You should do anything you can think of that will free the voice and engage the core. I move upward and downward in the following exercises by half-steps.

Italian Mr. - As this one increases in range open up the central vowel to [a].



On the farm- I incorporate different versions of crescendo/diminuendo throughout this exercise. The true master of the high range can sing a pianissimo in their high range. This one works particularly well with young tenors. Keep the vowel more open and avoid chewing the diphthong.



Minor kinda mood- Use a big sweeping motion of the hands when performing the upper leap of this exercise.

[vi - a - o a] _____ [vi - a - o a] _____ [vi -

Inner Opera Singer- Have your students stand with their hands clasped (alla Sound of Music) until the highest note, then they throw their arms open into a grandiose, larger-than-life opera pose.

[i _____ a _____]

Popcorn- Students can play an imaginary piano on their arms for the staccato, and use big sweeping arms for the octave leaps. This one moves up two half steps per repeat of the exercise. Open the vowels as necessary.

[i _____ e _____ o _____ i _____ e _____ o _____]

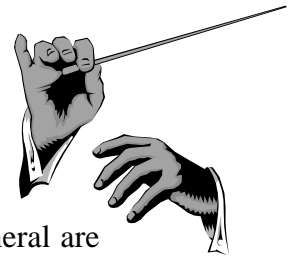
Downward Dog- Change this to a very forward resonant [vi] with a lot of forward core in the sound as you move down by half steps for the following two exercises.

how low can you go?

Down the spiral staircase

[vi di vi vi di vi di vi di vi di vi di vi]

Next up: Intonation exercises!



Fall In-Service

Rodger Guerrero, Past President

I don't know about you, but I often feel that choral music and music education in general are highly undervalued. Perhaps it's an overreaction on my part, but it seems that even those "in the know" of the music education scene are blind to the amount of time and effort we choral directors dedicate to our students. More importantly, the significance of what we accomplish through choral music-making is a mystery to many. How can we truly quantify our value outside of anecdotal testimonials? How can we articulate our achievements in a manner that all can understand? How can we assess what we accomplish in more than just referential opinions and dramatically stated absolutes?

We must embed cornerstone assessments, what we value, in standards-based curriculum.

As you may already be aware, our national music education organization, *NAfME*, is in the process of re-articulating the National Core Arts Standards. The procedure is certainly a complicated and highly contentious one (what music educator is not opinionated? ☺). Yet it is one that all of us must become literate about if we hope to be able to articulate our worth. Luckily, the efforts of the *National Coalition for Core Arts Standards* are incredibly transparent. The work-in-progress document is available to all of us at the *NCCAS* website: <http://nccas.wikispaces.com>

Feeling a little misunderstood and undervalued as a music educator? Try these wonderful examples from the National Core Arts Standards Philosophical Foundation Chart on for size:

Throughout history the arts have provided essential means for individuals and communities to express their ideas, experiences, feelings, and deepest beliefs. Each discipline shares common goals, but approaches them through distinct media and techniques. Understanding artwork provides insights into individuals' own and others' cultures and societies, while also providing opportunities to access, express, and integrate meaning across a variety of content areas.

In today's multimedia society, the arts are the media, and therefore provide powerful and essential means of communication. The arts provide unique symbol systems and metaphors that convey and inform life experience (i.e., the arts are ways of knowing).

Participation in each of the arts as creators, performers, and audience members enables individuals to discover and develop their own creative capacity, thereby providing a source of lifelong satisfaction.

Participation in the arts as creators, performers, and audience members (responders) enhances mental, physical, and emotional well-being.

The arts provide means for individuals to collaborate and connect with others in an enjoyable inclusive environment as they create, prepare, and share artwork that bring communities together.

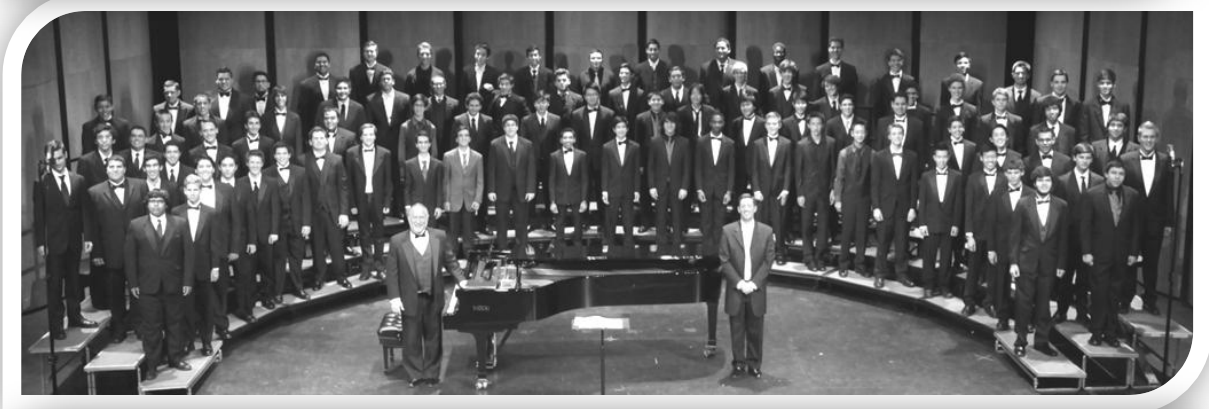
Recent research on arts education as it relates to students' social, emotional, and cognitive developmental needs indicates that arts experiences are consistently found to give students tools to make sense of their world and make connections between disparate ideas, while also making connections between themselves and others.

Hmmm...I suddenly feel much better about what I do as a music educator. Now I have actual, quantifiable language I can reference when discussing the value of music education with those who are unaware of the myriad of its positive benefits. All it took was a little reading of the National Core Arts Standards. I hope it works for each of you as well. And now if you will excuse me...I have some more important, self-affirming reading to do...

2013 SCVA HIGH SCHOOL HONOR CHOIRS



**Mixed
Honor
Choir**



**Men's
Honor
Choir**



**Women's
Honor
Choir**



**Conductors : Dr. Robert Istad,
Dr. Jeffrey Benson & Dr. Amanda
Quist**



**SCVA Honor Choir VP's:
Karen Garrett & Tina Peterson**



**Accompanists:
Jill Brenner, Joseph Schubert &
Sara Shkliyan**

Southern California Vocal Association

c/o The Buckley School

3900 Stansbury Ave. Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

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



IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

SCVA Festival Registration	Ongoing
Solo/Small Ensemble Registration Deadline	January 13, 2014
SCVA Junior High/Middle School Honor Choir Auditions	January 18, 2014
SCVA Junior High/Middle School Honor Choir Auditions	January 25, 2014
Diva Day	February 8, 2014
Young Men's Harmony Festival	February 15, 2014
ACDA Western Division Conference	February 20 – 22, 2014
SCVA Festival Registration Deadline	March 1, 2014
SCVA Vocal Jazz/Acapella Festival	March 7, 2014
SCVA Junior High/Middle School Honor Choir Rehearsal	March 15, 2014
California All-State High School Honor Choirs	March 20 - 22, 2014
SCVA Junior High/Middle School Honor Choir Rehearsal	March 22, 2014
SCVA Junior High/Middle School Honor Choir Concert	April 26, 2014
SCVA Show Choir Competition	May 3, 2014