

SCVA NEWS

Southern California Vocal Association September, 2013

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

John Hendricks

Greetings, and welcome to the 2013-2014 school year. I hope that this finds you refreshed and invigorated in beginning this next "chapter" for you and your students.

As you'll see in this newsletter, SCVA is here to partner with you to invigorate your efforts in the classroom, and offer exciting opportunities for your singers and all who are involved in choral music education in Southern California. In fact, our official mission is just that—to support choral music programs in schools.

I encourage you to take a close look at this newsletter and note that we hold events throughout the school year not only for students, but also for educators. Your membership offers you access to these gatherings, as well as to a vibrant community of dedicated professionals, artists, enthusiasts, intellectuals, and politicians who are deeply committed to the idea that accessibility and excellence in our school programs are critical in the lives of our students. There is a greater optimism regarding the future funding of arts in education in Sacramento than I have witnessed in some time, and our active efforts in this area with CMEA in a coalition of professional music organizations known as Stand Up 4 Music, will be at the forefront of our public presence and advocacy this year.

SCVA holds a unique position and responsibility in our region. We directly serve nearly 15,000 students per year through our events, and offer an average of 60 adjudicated choral festivals each year—open to ensembles of all ability levels. Our SCVA Choral School (formerly known as the Fall In-Service) on Saturday, October 19 will be a superb day of professional development for our members. We offer the only large Solo and Ensemble festival in our region. Our partnership with the Masters of Harmony at the Young Men's Harmony Festival has yielded a consistently thrilling day of music making for our tenors and basses, as has Diva Day done for our high school women. SCVA Honor Choirs will again engage the artistic hearts and minds of our high school and middle school singers, as will our Jazz Vocal and Contemporary A Cappella Festival, featuring adjudication by two members of the world-renowned a cappella sextet, m-pact, on March 7. And a sure favorite for many of our members is the Show Choir Spectacular toward the end of the school year.

Please do note that the registration deadline for our first major event of the year for our students—the High School Honor Choirs—is rapidly approaching, as auditions are scheduled for Saturday, September 28 and Saturday, October 5. Please encourage your students to request a reserved audition time as soon as possible at scvachoral.org, and plan to attend the concert and rehearsals.

Finally, I send a clarion call to you, that our organization cannot function well without the enthusiastic volunteerism and visible advocacy of our members. We hope that you will participate actively in some capacity in at least one of our events. Your assistance with on-site logistics is needed and welcomed. It's a great way to help our students succeed, and in the process you'll meet and reconnect with some of the most committed people to our profession in the region.

Most of all, we welcome your ideas. Please contact me at jhendricks@buckley.org if you have any questions or thoughts about SCVA and its future. We are here for you. I hope that you have a spectacular year of learning and music making with your students, and I so look forward to seeing you at SCVA events in the future months.



SCVA High School Honor Choir

Tina Glander Peterson, Vice President, High School Honor Choirs

We are pleased to announce this year's conductors for the SCVA High School Honor Choirs:

Mixed Choir:	Dr. Robert Istad, Director of Choral Activities, California State University Fullerton
Women's Choir:	Dr. Amanda Quist, Associate Professor of Conducting, Westminster Choir College
Men's Choir:	Dr. Jeffrey Benson, Director of Choral Activities, San Jose State University

Students who have participated in SCVA Honor Choirs in the past have regularly cited the experience of singing in our honor choirs as musically highly satisfying, deeply inspiring, and even life-changing. Participants will have the unique opportunity of working with some of the most distinguished conductors in our field, and prepare a concert with the most accomplished choral students from Southern California. We strongly encourage our eligible high school students in the region to apply to audition for what promises to be an exceptional choral experience.

Below, you will find our condensed version of the Honor Choir Policies and Guidelines as well as important dates and times. Karen Garrett and I wanted to provide you with a quick, one-page "At-A-Glance" for Honor Choir. For a complete listing of Honor Choir Policies and Guidelines please go to www.scvachoral.org.

SCVA High School Honor Choir At-A-Glance

Important Dates: (all rehearsals are mandatory)

- August 30-Sep 17th On-line Audition Application (fee \$10).
Deadline midnight 9/17.
- Sep 20 Audition Sites Posted
- Sept. 28 or Oct 5th Regional Auditions
- Oct. 9th Audition Results Posted (Honor Choir fee \$80.00 if accepted)
- Oct. 26th Rehearsal @ Irvine High 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Nov. 22/23 Honor Choir Weekend, Santa Monica High School. Performance Saturday @ 7:30pm.

Honor Choir Guidelines and Policies (for complete listing go to www.scvachoral.org)

- A student must be enrolled in his/her school's choral program in order to be eligible for participation in Honor Choir.
- If selected for the Honor Choir you must participate. If a student drops out of an SCVA Honor Choir, the student's school may not be allowed to participate in Honor Choir the following school year.
- 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.
- Calendar conflicts are NOT an acceptable reason for missing rehearsal or dropping Honor Choir. This includes work schedule, athletic games or practices, SAT tests, and school choir or drama events. We encourage every student to check the dates above before applying.

The Audition (100 points)

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

- **SOLO:** (40 points) Prepare an 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, and chromatic scale, sung on any syllable.

How to Apply:

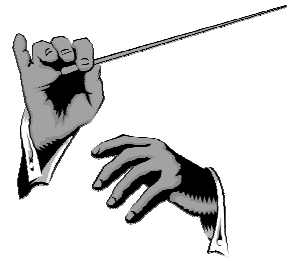
- Go to www.scvachoral.org. Tab to SCVA Regional Honor Choirs
- Select the weekend and site at which you wish to audition, your teacher's e-mail and if you wish to be considered for All State.
- Pay \$10 on the PayPal site (or major credit card) or have your teacher send a school check (no personal checks accepted).
- No student will be assigned an audition time without payment by Sept. 17th.

If you wish to be considered for All State you must be available March 20-22.



SCVA Choral School

Rodger Guerrero, Past President



This year's phenomenal SCVA Fall In-Service will be transformed! Held on **Saturday, October 19, 2013**, it will become the 1st annual **SCVA Choral School**. How will it be different? What will it entail? Who will it feature? How will it better serve our needs? Most importantly, how will it positively impact our students and our craft?

The **SCVA Choral School** will again take place at Placentia Presbyterian Church (849 N. Bradford Ave, Placentia) and will still last from 9:00am – 4:00pm. It was moved to a Saturday to better accommodate all who find it difficult to procure a substitute for their classes. It will also help those who dislike missing rehearsals on a regular school day. However, instead of a series of lectures and presentations, the new **SCVA Choral School** will consist of actual choral rehearsals followed by an end-of-the-day mini-concert. Participants will be distributed into two equal SATB ensembles. Each choir will rehearse pre-selected individual octavos as well as two combined pieces throughout the day. Everything from vocalizing, tonal production, sight singing, musicality, blend, conducting technique, rehearsal strategies and more will be covered throughout the rehearsals. But here's the kicker: instead of simply being lectured to, each participant will *actually experience* subject matter and methodologies as an actual choir member. The thought here is this: *the best way we can improve our efforts with our singers is to place ourselves in their shoes from time to time.*

How great will it be to *actually experience* how conducting gesture effects tone? How great will it be to *actually experience* methodologies for improving vocal technique? How great will it be to *actually experience* new rehearsal learning strategies? How great will it be to *actually experience* combined approaches to sight singing and musicality within the choral rehearsal? How great will it be to *actually experience* how a conductor's mental and strategic tactics can impact the success of a choral rehearsal? How great will it be to *actually experience*, side by side, two completely different yet equally, outrageously, successful teaching techniques?

An important endeavor such as the new **SCVA Choral School** could not be successful without the talents and remarkable philosophies of two excellent, unique choral conductors. Luckily, we have them: **Dr. Rob Istad from Cal State Fullerton**, and **Dr. Jonathan Talberg from Cal State Long Beach**. Both are nationally and internationally recognized for being at the top of their field. Both are supreme educators and amazing musicians. Most importantly, both are phenomenal human beings.

Please register for the **SCVA Choral School** as soon as possible. The Early Registration deadline is **September 30, 2013**. Anyone who enrolls after that date cannot be guaranteed a music packet. When registering, all prospective participants must indicate a preferred vocal part and assumed experience level so that two equal SATB choirs can be established. All participants must already be or must become SCVA members. College/university choral music students may register at a significantly reduced rate which includes SCVA membership as a bonus.

The **SCVA Choral School** day will officially begin at 9am, but participants should arrive at least 30 minutes early in order to check-in and enjoy the coffee-juice-pastry social time. All are encouraged to invite a college/university music major, new teacher, or a colleague who has not previously attended SCVA events to come and spend the day with us at the new **SCVA Choral School**. All in attendance are sure to learn a great deal from Dr. Istad and Dr. Talberg. All in attendance are guaranteed to *actually experience* the magic of excellent choral music-making. See you there!

Register today for the SCVA Choral School: www.scvachoral.org

*You must indicate your preferred vocal part and experience level
when you register so that equal SATB choirs can be established.*

\$50 Early Registration (**Deadline: September 30th**)
\$60 Late/Walk-on Registration (**music packet cannot be guaranteed**)
\$15 Collegiate Membership Registration



Dr. Robert Istad is Associate Professor and Director of Choral Studies at California State University, Fullerton where he conducts the University Singers and Women's Choir in addition to teaching courses in conducting, advanced interpretation and literature. Under his direction, the CSUF University Singers have performed all over the world, including engagements at the 2012 Ottobeuren Festival of Music, the 2012 Eingen Festival of music, a performance for UNESCO in Pisa, Italy, and in the world-famous Liszt Academy of Music in Budapest, Hungary. He and his singers were featured at the 2013 ACDA National Conference in Dallas, Texas and the 2012 ACDA Western Division Conference in Reno, Nevada. The University Singers under his leadership have been invited to perform for the 2013 National Collegiate Choral Organization National Conference in Charleston, SC. Istad has prepared professional choruses for Gustavo Dudamel and the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Carl St.Clair and the Pacific Symphony Orchestra, Esa-Pekka Salonen and the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Nicholas McGegan and the Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra and Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra. Dr. Istad received his Bachelor of Arts degree in music from Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois, his Master of Music degree in choral conducting from California State University, Fullerton and his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in choral music at the University of Southern California. He studied conducting with Dr. William Dehning, John Alexander and Dr. Jon Hurty. Istad is also the Artistic Director of the Long Beach Camerata Singers and Long Beach Bach Festival, is the Assistant Conductor of the Pacific Chorale, and is in demand as an adjudicator, guest conductor and guest clinician throughout the nation.

Dr. Jonathan Talberg, Professor of Music and Director of Choral, Vocal, and Opera Studies at the Bob Cole Conservatory of Music at California State University, Long Beach, is conductor of the University and Chamber Choirs. He has twice conducted the Music Educator's National Conference regional honor choir, at the 2008 ACDA Western Convention and 2009 NCCO Conference, at numerous All-State choir concerts, and in various venues throughout Europe and Asia, including the Sistine Chapel, St. Peter's and St. Mark's Basilicas in Italy, and the Karlskirche in Vienna. In constant demand as a guest conductor, he has worked with all levels of singers—from elementary to professional—throughout the United States and Europe. He has prepared choirs for the Cincinnati Symphony, the Long Beach Symphony Orchestra, the Los Angeles Master Chorale, the Pacific Symphony and the Pasadena Pops. Dr. Talberg is Music Director of First Congregational Church of Los Angeles, where he conducts both the Cathedral Choir and the Cathedral Singers. He also serves as director of the Los Angeles Bach Festival, which celebrated its 78th anniversary in October with 6 concerts in 7 days, culminating in a performance of the B-Minor Mass. Prior to his appointment at CSULB in 2000, Dr. Talberg served as Conducting Assistant to the Cincinnati Symphony and the Cincinnati Pops. He has also taught high school choirs in Orange County and at the Los Angeles County High School for the Arts. He currently serves as Past President of California ACDA. Dr. Talberg earned his BM in Choral Conducting from Chapman University and his MM and DMA in Choral Conducting from the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music. He completed a post-doctoral fellowship, graciously underwritten by the Oliver Family Foundation, with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Cincinnati Pops, and the May Festival Chorus. His teachers include Roger Wagner, William Hall, Earl Rivers, John Leman and Elmer Thomas.



Membership

Lisa Lopez, Membership

It's an exciting time to be a part of SCVA! Last year saw tremendous growth in membership, due in large part to the enthusiasm of our president, Jon Hendricks, and his great leadership, vision, and determination for providing high quality performance and learning opportunities to teachers and students. He is doing an amazing job at "raising the bar" for our activities and events, while also staying in touch with the day-to-day realities and needs of school choir teachers.

If you attended an honor choir performance, a workshop, or any festival or event, I am confident you will agree that membership in SCVA is the best "bang for your buck" in professional memberships for choir teachers. In this frustrating time in public education, I find that my SCVA membership is more valuable than ever. Collaborating with my fellow SCVA directors, attending a workshop, watching an honor choir, and reading the newsletter all help me keep things in perspective and remind me of the value of choral music in our students' lives.

SPREAD THE WORD!

If you attended an event last year, you probably noticed the "kids" in the room. These "kids" are actually university students, and they represented the fastest-growing segment of our membership. In Southern California, we are so lucky to have college and university choral directors who are not only amazing conductors, but are also creating passionate young future educators who are excited about networking and learning. In my opinion, if the "kids" are excited enough to take the time to learn about teaching before they even enter the classroom, then how powerful would it be to bring more current directors into SCVA, and see even more of them at the events?

We are doing our best to get the word out, but you can also help by letting your colleagues know about SCVA. Perhaps there is a new school or teacher in your district, or your middle school band teacher just became your middle school choir teacher? This happened in my district, and attending the fall workshop was a valuable experience for my colleague - it gave him new ideas, and gave him more confidence by reinforcing the great things he was already doing. So, help us spread the word!

JOINING/RENEWING MEMBERSHIP- PLEASE NOTE:

Thanks to our amazing webmaster, Mark Freedkin, the online membership and registration process is quick and easy. However, each year, there are still checks that get misdirected and some communication difficulties. We do our best, but, just like you, we are running full-time choral programs and do the SCVA volunteer work during our prep periods, weekends, etc. It helps tremendously when people abide by membership payment guidelines and fill in the information completely. In general, most membership "issues" revolve around a few things; late payments, no payments, no information sent with the payment, or sending membership payments to the wrong officers.

1. Register and pay your dues on time or early. The best time to pay is at least a week before the September Honor Choir deadlines. This prevents any confusion at the first rehearsal and allows the event chairs to run the event without having to worry about tracking down directors for payment.
2. Please fill in all registration or renewal information completely, including your password.
3. If you register online and must pay by check, please include a hardcopy of the registration form with your check, or give one to your booster or school secretary so that they can send it with the complete check. Each year, several checks for new members are sent with no background information for the director or school.
4. If you delay joining until the day of an event, such as honor choir, it is better to pay online, as that is recorded instantly and can be easily checked. Otherwise, please write a separate check with "membership" written on it. This will help ensure that the payment is forwarded to me and processed correctly.

If you have any problems with the registration process, please contact me. Thank you in advance for helping to make the registration process as smooth as possible!

Website Update

Mark Freedkin, Webmaster



It's hard to believe that we've had a website for over 13 years. Over the past several years, we have greatly expanded the ability to register or apply for SCVA activities and events through our website. This has helped us to significantly improve accuracy and response times, as well as reducing postage expenses.

There have been a number of improvements to the on-line applications over the summer to help streamline the assignment of Audition Sites for Vocal Solo Competition and Junior High/Middle School Honor Choir. We've also added the ability for adjudicators for festivals and honor choir audition sites to sign-up on-line.

Please be aware that we use your e-mail address to uniquely identify you in our system. Whenever possible, please use a single e-mail address when registering for all your SCVA activities and events.

You can use PayPal to pay for membership renewals, festival registrations and other SCVA fees using any major credit card (such as MasterCard, Visa, Discover or American Express) as an alternative to sending school checks, booster checks, cashier checks or money orders. PayPal, which is owned and operated by e-Bay, is easy to use and ensures a timely and secure payment for those items. And you don't need to have your own personal PayPal account in order to use this interface.

For many of the on-line application forms, you can make the PayPal payment immediately after you submit the application form, and most of the information will be filled-in for you automatically. Otherwise, if you wish to pay at a different time, you can select the "**e-Payments**" item from the navigation menu of the SCVA website. You will then see a list of items that you can purchase. Fill-in the required information for the item you wish to purchase (such as "**School Name**" and "**Choir Name**"), and then click on the "**Add to Cart**" button for that item. If you wish to purchase additional items in the same transaction, you can return to the e-Payments page to select those additional items and add them to your cart. When you have made all of your selections and are ready to make your payment, you can click on the "**Proceed to Checkout**" button. Then select the link next to the line that reads "**Don't have a PayPal account?**" Then enter your name, email address, credit card account number and expiration date. If you continue, your credit card will be billed and you will be returned to the SCVA website. You will also receive a separate confirmation e-mail message, which you should print out and keep as proof of purchase. When you receive your monthly credit card statement, the transaction will appear as: "**PAYPAL*SCVACHORAL**". A small processing fee will be added to each purchase to cover our costs for using this on-line service. Your private credit card account information is always protected and never divulged to anyone within the SCVA organization.

If you already have your own personal PayPal account, please always use the "**e-Payments**" page or the on-line application forms to select the items you wish to purchase and login to your account from the Checkout page, rather than creating your own independent e-check transfers. This will help us maintain accurate records of electronic payments that have been made.

Also new for this year is the ability to swipe a credit card at any SCVA event using a simple card-reader device from PayPal that connects to most iPhone, Android or iPad devices. This new capability will allow us to accept credit card payments on-site at any SCVA events.

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 rejected as SPAM.

Note 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 response to the sender's e-mail address.

Hints for Using PayPal and Saving Money

When using PayPal to pay the application or participation fees for multiple students, you can minimize the processing fees by adding the desired item to your Shopping Cart only one time, and then specify a quantity for that one item. You should not add the same item to your Shopping Cart multiple times (once for each student), since that will result in a larger processing fee added to you total transaction.

2013 SCVA Festival Adjudication Report

by Jennifer Stanley, Executive Vice President

2013 was a remarkable year for SCVA festivals! SCVA organized 56 festivals which were attended by 180 directors, representing 53% of the SCVA membership. There were 362 ensembles registered for festivals with a total enrollment of 13,676 singers. Thank you to the directors who attended festivals, the festival hosts, and the festival judges who all worked together to make SCVA festivals so successful!

There were adjudication forms returned for 333 choirs. The average score earned by choirs at SCVA Festivals was **3.68** on a 4.0 scale. On the right is a breakdown of the scores they received:

2013	# Groups	% of Total
SUPERIOR	216	65%
EXCELLENT	117	35%
GOOD	1	0%
TOTAL	333	100%

There were 108 online festival evaluations submitted by directors. Here are the results:

RESULTS OF 2013 FESTIVAL EVALUATIONS	YES	NO	N/A
The adjudicator gave ratings that were too high.	14	202	
The adjudicator gave ratings that were too low.	5	211	
The adjudicator gave ratings that were fair/accurate.	202	14	
Comments for improvement were constructive and helpful.	213	3	
Comments were condescending or sarcastic.	1	215	
Comments related specifically to items checked (+) or (-).	204	12	
Subjective comments, if used, were minimal/labeled as such.	139	5	70
The two adjudicators were in major disagreement in the following areas:	17	49	41
Prior to the festival, did you receive a confirmation letter or email from the festival host containing all pertinent information?	108	0	
Was the piano in good condition and tuned?	100	8	
Was the facility appropriate for this event?	107	1	
Did you bring your own recording device (BYORD)?	55	53	
If your host provided digital adjudicator recording, was your recording complete and audible?	39	4	64
Were your adjudication forms returned promptly at the conclusion of the festival?	106	2	
Were your student guides helpful?	103	5	
Did the festival begin on time?	88	20	
Would you attend this festival again or recommend it to others?	107	1	
Was the online festival registration process simple to understand and easy to use?	106	2	
Are you satisfied with the SCVA festival adjudication system (GPA of categories determines rating)?	102	6	

Comments from directors:

- It was a great opportunity to learn for my choirs.
- Awesome festival!
- Thanks for hosting and providing judges who are experts in evaluating choral groups and helping them become excellent musicians.
- It was refreshing to have such reputable adjudicators. This made the even memorable for my students.
- Thank you. EXCELLENT festival.
- Thank you for making the SCVA festivals a dependable experience for students and directors. A special shout out to our host for running a great festival!
- My students look forward to and enjoy participating in the SCVA festivals. Adjudicators have consistently been fair and helpful in their assessment of our choir's strengths and opportunities for improvement. I will continue to recommend SCVA festivals to schools in the area.
- It was a wonderful experience. Both judges were "right on" with all of their helpful criticisms!
- Top Judges! Great enthusiasm.
- We had a fantastic experience at our festival. It was well run and a great time.

The National Standards for Music Education are being REVISED! Music educators are encouraged to follow the progress of the National Coalition for Core Arts Standards at <http://nccas.wikispaces.com/>

Host an SCVA Choral Festival This Year!

Nancy Ludwig, VP of High School Festivals

Melva Morrison, VP of Junior High & Middle School Festivals



Welcome to the beginning of an exciting new school year! As you continue to plan your choral events for the coming year we would like invite you to consider hosting an SCVA Choral Festival as part of your calendar. SCVA served over 13,000 choral students at almost 60 festivals last year in Southern California, and that is only possible when directors like you generously agree to host a festival.

For those of you who have hosted festivals in the past, we hope you will again consider hosting a festival this year. Please submit your online application as soon as possible. To those who have considered but have concerns, or maybe haven't thought about hosting a festival, there are many great reasons to host an SCVA Choral Festival:

- Festival hosts receive free festival registration for one choir for each festival you host.
- Your students have the benefit of performing in their own venue, AND you do not have to travel to the festival.
- You can choose a date that works best for you, your school calendar, and your administration.
- You receive support from SCVA in that the organization provides all forms and plaques, schedules adjudicators, and will provide you with contact information for all directors bringing groups to your festival.

This is an excellent opportunity to meet and network with other directors and adjudicators. But most importantly you are helping to provide an opportunity for choirs in your area to perform for one another, hear quality repertoire, and receive feedback from qualified adjudicators, which is an important part of their growth as young choral musicians.

Submit your festival host registration at SCVACHORAL.ORG - deadline is November 1, 2013.

If you are interested in hosting an ELEMENTARY FESTIVAL, or if you have questions about elementary festivals, please email Nancy Ludwig or Melva Morrison.

Please contact us with questions!

Concentrated Teaching Part 4: The Power of “Warm-up” (Resonance 2)

Jeffre Huls, Vocal Solo Competition



I refer to this as middle voice/agility exercises. This is the "meat" of your daily routine and should also include an exercise based upon your repertoire as well.

Remember, a good vocalization (warm-up) is the building block from which you teach. As you begin this new school year, consider setting the expectation that this is where the most teaching is done. As a reminder, never let your students sing these exercises with bad tone. If they can't sing a beautiful melismatic phrase in a vocalization, they won't be able to sing, "for unto us a child is bo-o-o-o...orn" beautifully either. Always incorporate hand and body motions that will help internalize the style with which you want them to sing. Make it up as you go: tiny karate chops work great for quick sixteenth notes, spreading butter on toast is great for legato. I'm sure you can think of dozens of your own ideas. Once I have established a motion in an exercise, I take it to the repertoire. Then as a final step, I combine a hint of that motion into my conducting gesture to help the performers remember. It is amazing what their muscle memory will do with a little reminder. Below, I have included a variety of exercises that I hope will help you rethink your vocalization process and inspire you to create your own. Each exercise should move up and down by half steps and only within a comfortable range. For the next issue we will take a break from the series so that I can share with you information about 2013-2014 Solo/Ensemble festivals. Have an inspired school year!

♩ = 100

[i] [i] [e] [e] [a] [a] [o] [o] [u]

♩ = 100

[ni] [vu] [ni] [ni] [vu] [ni] [ni] [vu] [ni] [vu] [ni] [vu] [ni]

♩ = 100

[ziŋ] [i] [ziŋ] [i] [a]

♩ = 100

[ve] [o] [me] [o] [ve] [o] [me] [o] [nez]

♩ = 100

[zi] [ze] [zi] [ze] [zi] [ze] [zi] [ze]



Young Women's and Young Men's Harmony Festivals

*Mark Freedkin, VP of Barbershop Harmony
Festivals*



We are pleased to invite you to this year's Barbershop Harmony Festivals for Young Women and Young Men. 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.

The early application fee is only \$25 per singer for applications that are submitted by November 15. After November 15, the application is fee \$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 is limited to 250 participants, so be sure to submit your applications early. Note that these festivals are completely 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 that wish to participate, but please submit your applications early to ensure that all of your singers can be accommodated. We realize that this is Valentine's weekend, but we wanted to avoid any conflict with the ACDA Western Division Conference in Santa Barbara.

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

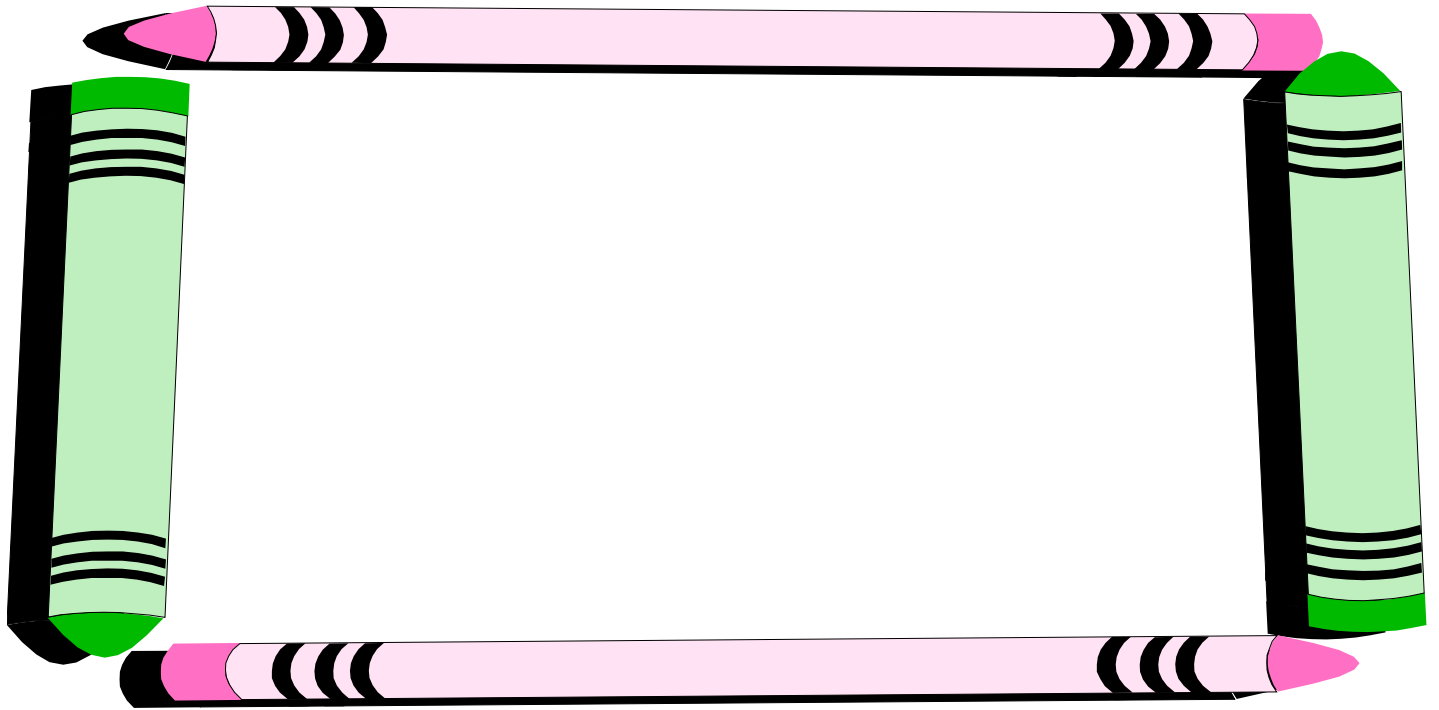
Young Men's Harmony Festival
Mark Freedkin
Masters of Harmony
Home: (949) 559-9621
Cell: (714) 357-1187
Email: mfreedkin@yahoo.com

Southern California Vocal Association

c/o The Buckley School

3900 Stansbury Ave. Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

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



IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

High School Honor Choir Registration Deadline	September 17, 2013
High School Honor Choir Audition Times Posted	September 20, 2013
High School Honor Choir Auditions	September 28, 2013 October 5, 2013
SCVA Choral School Early Registration Deadline	September 30, 2013
High School Honor Choir Results Posted	October 9, 2013
SCVA Choral School	October 19, 2013
High School Honor Choir Rehearsal	October 26, 2013
Festival Host Application Deadline	November 1, 2013
Harmony Festivals Early Registration Deadline	November 15, 2013
High School Honor Choir Weekend	November 22-23, 2013
Diva Day	February 8, 2014
Young Men's Harmony Festival	February 15, 2014
ACDA Western Division Conference	February 20 – 22, 2014
California All-State High School Honor Choirs	March 20 - 22, 2014