



# Southern California Vocal Association

September 2023

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

*Tammi Alderman*

Welcome Back to the schools that have just started another year. For those who are nearly a month into the year, I hope that you've navigated meetings, Back-to-School Nights and new faces with grace and some semblance of work/life balance. For those of you about to dig-in, I wish you all of the energy and moments of rest to make it through the beginning.

For some inspiration, I'd like to share with you messages from students to their music teachers at the end of the year. I am doing this now because at the beginning, it is sometimes hard to remember the goal (which is not *really* the concerts). In short, remember that we are "Teaching people through music, not teaching music to people."

- Your class has brought so much joy and happiness into my life, and for that, I am eternally grateful. Thank you for creating such a fun and engaging learning environment and for instilling in me a love for music that will last a lifetime.
- Your passion for music is contagious, and your creativity and energy have made learning music an absolute joy. Thank you for all the great memories, the laughs, and for instilling in me a love for music that will continue to bring me joy for years to come.
- You have been much more than just a music teacher to me – you have been a mentor, a confidante, and a supporter. Your kindness, empathy, and understanding have helped me navigate some of the toughest challenges of my life. Thank you for being such a positive, uplifting presence in my life. Thank you for everything.

**REMINDERS:** This year SCVA will have more offerings than ever, most of which are highlighted in this edition of our newsletter. Please take a moment to decide what SCVA experiences will benefit your students over the course of this year. Hint: include those events and dates in your calendar so that students and parents all know the options.

**EXCITING NEWS:** SCVA has scholarship/financial assistance available for nearly every event that we now offer. Thanks to our Past-President, Drew Lewis, and other SCVA Board Members, we are able to offer assistance to:

- Honor Choir Students (audition fees and participation fees)
- Choral Festivals (registration fees)
- Fall In-Service (registration fees)
- Close Harmony Festival (registration fees)

If there are other events for which you or your students need assistance, please email someone on the SCVA board and we will create a solution for you and your students.

If there is any way that SCVA can serve you, please let us know!

Tammi Alderman  
President

Drew Lewis  
Past President

Michael Ushino  
President Elect

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VP I - Festivals

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VP II - Festivals

Alan Garcia  
VP - Festival Adjudication

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Jr High Honor Choir

Brandon Harris  
VP - Show Choir

Sara Logsdon  
VP - Jazz/Contemporary A Cappella  
Honor Choir

Kaitlin Holt  
VP - Jazz Festival

Alanah Maguire  
Elementary Activities

Marco Rodriguez  
VP - Close Harmony Festival

Erika Jackson  
Membership



# HOST REGISTRATION

## Now Open

### ADVANTAGES OF HOSTING

CHOIR FESTIVALS WITH SCVA

- Select a festival date that works with your schedule
- No need to worry about the chaos of transportation
- You are allowed to register one performing ensemble for free!
- **Host registration closes October 1st**

## SEEKING FESTIVAL ADJUDICATORS

FOR THE 2024 FESTIVAL SEASON

SCVA is seeking talented individuals to serve as sightreading adjudicators, festival adjudicators, and festival clinicians. If you are passionate about serving as an adjudicator, consider joining our team! We are looking for adjudicators who are able to fulfill the following job description:

1. Provide choral adjudications (written and spoken) to school choirs at all levels in a fast, clear, and encouraging manner.
2. Adjudications will provide positive, meaningful feedback in all categories of the adjudication form.
3. Make specific and encouraging comments focused on promoting the choir's improvement.
4. Complete adjudications professionally, promptly, and as directed.

Applicants will be evaluated based on the achievement of these objectives. **To serve as an adjudicator for Spring 2024, applications should be submitted by November 30th, 2023.**

The application process can be accessed via the following link:  
[http://scvachoral.org/festival\\_adjudicator\\_reg.php](http://scvachoral.org/festival_adjudicator_reg.php)

If you know of any colleagues to recommend as a potential adjudicator, please e-mail their name and contact information to Alan Garcia at [garcia\\_al@auhsd.us](mailto:garcia_al@auhsd.us).



# High School **HONOR CHOIR** 2023

**Applications Open:** August 18  
**Auditions:** Sept 30 & Oct 7  
**Honor Choir Weekend:** Nov 16-18  
[scvachoral.org](http://scvachoral.org)

**SHARE OUR  
AUDITION VIDEO  
WITH YOUR STUDENTS!**



*Click to view!*



**Dr. Jace Saplan**  
SATB Honor Choir



**Dr. Joe Modica**  
SSAA Honor Choir



**John Byun**  
TTBB Honor Choir

*Click to apply!*



**Audition  
Adjudicators  
Needed!**

Help facilitate positive audition experiences for our region's students by adjudicating auditions!  
**Receive a \$150 stipend, or the ability to waive a Festival Participation Fee in 2024.**

**SCVAHONORCHOIR@GMAIL.COM**

We're Back!!!  
Introducing the SCVA 2023  
Vocal Jazz Contemporary  
A Cappella Honor Choir Director:  
**MATT FALKER**

**AUDITIONS GO  
LIVE:**  
AUGUST 21ST,  
2023

**AUDITION  
DEADLINE:**  
SEPTEMBER 17TH,  
2023 AT 11:59 PM



**HONOR CHOIR  
WEEKEND:**  
NOVEMBER  
16-17TH, 2023



MATT FALKER IS A JAZZ AND GOSPEL PIANIST, VOCALIST, ARRANGER AND CLINICIAN. AS A FULL-TIME PROFESSOR AT MIRACOSTA COLLEGE, MATT DIRECTS THE DOWNBEAT AWARD-WINNING FREQUENCY VOCAL JAZZ PROGRAM, AND IS FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR OF THE OCEANSIDE JAZZ FESTIVAL.

**EMAIL [SARALOGSDON12@GMAIL.COM](mailto:saralogsdon12@gmail.com) OR VISIT  
[scvachoral.org/vocal\\_jazz\\_honor\\_choir.php](http://scvachoral.org/vocal_jazz_honor_choir.php)**

# SCVA *Fall* IN-SERVICE

**OCTOBER 27, 2023**

**9:00 AM-4:00 PM**

**GLENDALE CITY CHURCH**

**610 E. California Ave., Glendale, CA 91206**



**HEADLINE CLINICIAN**

**Maria A. Ellis**

**"Girl Conductor"**



**Other Clinicians/Sessions:**

**Reena Esmail and Dr. Zanaida Robles** - LA Composers reading session  
**Jeremy Fox, Mt. San Antonio College** - Improv[e] your scatting & Sound  
Engineering for choral directors  
**Frank LaGuardia, Vice President, LA Orff Chapter** - Elementary Sessions

**Early Registration:** \$75 (deadline September 15, 2022)

**Late Registration:** \$85 (after September 15, 2022)

**SCVA Collegiate members:** \$20, includes SCVA Yearly Membership



# Close Harmony Festival

*"Grow as a person  
and a musician!"*



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**SATURDAY FEB 24, 2024**

- Meet new friends
- Perform with world champions
- Learn fun repertoire
- Perform for friends and family!

**LOCATION JORDAN  
HIGH SCHOOL**

MARCOANTONIORODRIGUEZJR@GMAIL.COM

# SCVA VOCAL JAZZ & CONTEMPORARY A CAPELLA FESTIVAL

LONGER CLINIC TIMES  
LUNCH TIME CONCERT  
MANDATORY 3 HOUR  
BLOCKS (GUARANTEED  
AUDIENCE FOR ALL GROUPS)

Registration opens  
October 1st, 2023 @  
[https://www.scvachoral.org/jazz\\_festival.php](https://www.scvachoral.org/jazz_festival.php)

Please email  
[kholt@hartdistrict.org](mailto:kholt@hartdistrict.org)  
with any questions



**SATURDAY  
FEBRUARY 10TH  
2024**

At Saugus High School  
in Santa Clarita CA





**VOCAL SOLO  
SMALL ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL  
2023-2024**



**Important Dates**

- ✦ **Friday, February 23rd**  
Audition Application & Round One  
Submission Deadline
- ✦ **Friday, March 8th**  
Results of Finalists Announced
- ✦ **Friday, May 3rd**  
Final Submission Deadline
- ✦ **Sunday, May 19th**  
Live Finals Round @ 2:00pm  
Northridge United Methodist  
Church 9650 Reseda Blvd.  
Northridge, CA 91324

**Adjudicators**  
*Professional  
Performing Artists*

**Charlie  
Kim  
&  
Baraka  
May**



**AWARDS AND  
SCHOLARSHIPS  
AVAILABLE**

**For More Information:** [www.scvachoral.org](http://www.scvachoral.org)  
**Questions:**  
[Marisa.Bradfield@providencehigh.org](mailto:Marisa.Bradfield@providencehigh.org)  
or [Avakiagk@PierceCollege.edu](mailto:Avakiagk@PierceCollege.edu)



# SAVE THE DATE

SCVA SHOW CHOIR SPECTACULAR



**MAY** | **18<sup>TH</sup>** | **2024**

JOHN A. ROWLAND HIGH SCHOOL  
2000 OTTERBEIN AVE ROWLAND HEIGHTS CA 91748



# Important Dates & Deadlines

	<u>2023</u>
Festival Host Registration	Open
High School Honor Choir Applications Open	Open
VJC A Capella Honor Choir Auditions Go Live	Live
VJC A Capella Honor Choir Audition Deadline	September 17
High School Honor Choir Auditions	September 30
VJC A Capella Festival Registration Opens	October 1
High School Honor Choir Auditions	October 7
Fall In-Service	October 27
JVC A Capella Honor Choir Weekend	November 16-17
High School Honor Choir Weekend	November 16-18
Festival Adjudicators Application Deadline	November 30
	<u>2024</u>
Close Harmony Festival	February 3
VJC A Capella Festival	February 10
Vocal Solo Small Ensemble Audition Application and Round One Submission Deadline	February 23
Vocal Solo Small Ensemble Results of Finalists Announced	March 18
Vocal Solo Small Ensemble Final Submission Deadline	May 3
Vocal Solo Small Ensemble Live Finals Round	May 19

## **WEBSITE UPDATE**

**Mark Freedkin, SCVA Webmaster**



### **Your E-mail Address Matters**

When you registered or renewed your annual SCVA Membership, you specified your work or personal e-mail address, both of which are unique to you. In some cases, you might have multiple e-mail address aliases for your school, but you must always standardize on the one that you used for your SCVA Membership.

When your students register to participate in an SCVA event, they should use the same e-mail address that you used when you created or renewed your Annual SCVA Membership. The system validates your e-mail address and verifies that your SCVA Membership Dues have been paid. Our systems will reject any student applications (such as Honor Choirs or Vocal Solo Competition) that don't use your primary e-mail address.

When that happens, the application is discarded and there is nothing that we can do to recover it. Instead, it is your responsibility to ensure that your singers use **ONLY** your primary e-mail address that is associated with your SCVA membership. In addition, when we have application deadlines, we cannot accept a claim that a student used the wrong e-mail address or if they had some Internet connectivity problems. It is as if they had not submitted any application at all. This is another great reason to teach your students that waiting until the last minute to submit their applications is not a very good idea.

On a related note, when your students use that primary email address for their audition applications, you can view all of the applications for your students by logging in to the Members-Only area of the website. You can also view all of your Festival Registrations on that page once we open the Festival Registration process.