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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Rachelle Randeem

Welcome back to a new season - a season of investing in the next generation musically, artistically and personally!

Growing up as a farm girl, I find it incredibly ironic how the traditional preparing, planting and harvesting seasons diametrically oppose the educational season! Farmers work towards fall harvest while schools all over the country begin the educational planting season with a new crop of youth - these youth who will be our future's leaders. As educators, we have worked the soil by setting the stage through scheduling the year wisely, updating our curriculums to meet the needs of our specific demographics, and creatively considering how to better the landscape of our classrooms. This season will be full of fertilizing lives through new procedures, policies and training, resulting in the culmination of lives shaped and changed through numerous opportunities to grow and bloom at performances, festivals, and honor choirs. We have the great opportunity to assist students in flourishing and prospering as well as observing them harvest their crop of learning each year as they move toward adulthood!

SCVA is here to support you as you help your students grow musically! **Begin by renewing your membership!** Your students will have no choice but to bloom as they **audition for and participate in the High School & Jr. High Honor Choirs** (including the new Vocal Jazz / Contemporary A-Cappella Honor Choir!), partake in our **Youth Harmony event, perform at Festivals**, and shine on stage during the **Show Choir Spectacular**.

You - the choral professional - are you also blooming? We hope to **support** you via **newsletters**, online inspirational **emails**, a motivating **Fall In-Service** (October 12), encouraging **JumpStart** events (for aspiring & novice music educators) and social **connections** throughout the year.

Have you considered your goals for the year? Setting goals, even if not fully achieved, propel us forward. In each school in which I have taught, teachers sit down with an administrator each Fall to nail down goals for the year - school-wide & district goals, as well as goals specific to their classrooms. Because they inspire me, I would love for you to read about some of your colleagues' goals this year...

- Beginning each day with a Sight Reading contest.
- Posting on the choir's social media each day.
- Dialing back on unnecessary commitments so that I can focus on teaching.
- Creating a Word Wall to promote musical discussion with musical terminology.
- Providing more access to "what is out there" (field trips to concerts, listening to recordings in class, etc).
- Expecting more of my beginners.
- Focusing on building relationships with my feeder schools and establishing more a presence there.
- Stepping out of my comfort zone to try things that feel like risks related to performing and repertoire.
- Character-building skills as an entire school (emphasizing awareness of our skills in balance, kindness, compassion, forgiveness and growth mindset).

Wishing you a school year full of musical and artistic confidence and joy as you step each day into the realm of cultivating growth in the leaders of the next generations.

SCVA Fall In-Service

October 12th, 2018

Placentia Presbyterian, Placentia

- *Keynote
- *Breakouts by level
- *Share Educator to Educator
- *Reading Session
- *Jumpstart

Non SCVA members welcome.
\$70.00 early registration ends 9/30
\$85.00 Oct. 1-12
Walk-ins welcome
Panera box lunch included

Register:

www.scvachoral.org

Early registration ends Sept. 30th



Angel Vazquez-Ramos

"Achieving Student Success in Choral Music Education"

High School: Keith Hancock

"Never Settle: Running a better program and a better rehearsal in the secondary school setting"

Jr. High: Steve Clausen

"The Three Key Elements for a Successful Middle School Choral Program."

Elementary: Kim Nason

"Music Literacy for Primary Singers"

The most practical Professional Development you'll attend all year.

SCVA SOUTHERN REGION, HIGH SCHOOL HONOR CHOIRS

Matthew Netto and Michael Ushino, Co-Coordinators



THANK YOU

With Honor Choir auditions completed, we would like to sincerely thank all of our Audition Site Hosts and Audition Judges for their time and talents in making the auditions a positive and musically enriching experience for our students. THANK YOU!

A TIME FOR LEARNING

If your student was not selected for the 2018 Honor Choirs, please encourage them to continue their musical studies and try again in 2019. Many students, after more sight reading and musicianship training, are successful the 2nd time. All students now receive their audition forms back and it can be a great tool to discuss possible areas of improvement and growth. It may also be a good time to talk to ALL singers about good audition preparation and the feelings that come when one “doesn’t make it”. Relay stories about your own successes and disappointments. And, of course, don’t forget to celebrate those singers who will be a part of the Honor Choirs this year!



3 DAYS AT REDLANDS – WE NEED YOU TO VOLUNTEER



This year we are testing out the model used in the other regions for Honor Choir Weekend: Three Days, Thurs. November 15th, Fri.

November 16th, and Sat. November 17th at the University of Redlands. **We**

respectfully request that all directors sign up to volunteer in two (2) slots. The “Sign Up Genius” links are now available on the SCVA website under the Honor Choirs tab. With your help the event will run so smoothly. Come to the rehearsals to see our brilliant conductors at work and bring fresh ideas back to your classroom.

PART CHECKS



If you have students in the Honor Choir they will be doing part testing in octets at 8:00 a.m. on Nov 15th during registration at University of Redlands.

Singers now have almost 30 days to study before the first rehearsal. Please give them the music IMMEDIATELY and help them prepare. The rehearsal tracks will be available for download on the SCVA website.



COFFEE, CONVERSATIONS, AND CONNECTIONS WITH COLLEAGUES

Friday Nov. 16 “Let’s Chat” *Honor Choir Edition* 2:30 to 4:00pm, Augie’s Coffee House in Redlands: Coffee, Conversations, and Connections!

(Questions? Email host, Rachele Randeem: rrandeen@gmail.com)



SCVA Regional Honor Choir – Meet The Conductors

Matthew Netto, VP I for High School Honor Choir



TTBB Choir Conductor: John K. Russell, DMA is the Director of Choral and Vocal Studies at Palomar College and the Music Director of the San Diego Master Chorale. In addition, he serves on the summer conducting faculty at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey and is the Far South Regional Representative for the California Choral Director's Association.

Dr. Russell is also frequently in demand as a tenor soloist and was recently noted for his "heart-melting legato". His recent solo performances include Hector Berlioz's *Te Deum* with the San Diego Symphony, St. John Passion (Evangelist) with Pepperdine University, *Acis and Galatea* with the Bach Collegium San Diego and Monteverdi's *Vespers of 1610* with the Westminster Summer Choral Festival and Piffaro: The Renaissance Band in Philadelphia and Princeton.

Dr. Russell is a native of Kalamazoo, Michigan and is a graduate of Western Michigan University and Columbia University. He received his Doctorate of Musical Arts in Choral Music from the University of Southern California. His primary conducting mentors are Craig Arnold, Joe Miller and Jo-Michael Scheibe and he has studied voice with William Appel, Curt Peterson, Jeanne Goffi-Fynn and Gary Glaze. He currently resides in San Diego with his wife, Jill and son, Parker.



SSAA Choir Conductor: Désirée La Vertu is the Director of Choral & Vocal Activities at Occidental College in Los Angeles. Previously, she was the director of the Glee Clubs at Caltech. She was on the voice faculties of Chapman University and the summer graduate program at CSU Los Angeles. As a soprano, Ms. La Vertu specializes in the oratorio repertoire, and has been a soloist in Poulenc's *Gloria* and Vaughan Williams' *Dona Nobis Pacem*, both at Disney Hall, Brahms' *Ein Deutches Requiem*, Handel's *Messiah*, Mozart's *Requiem*, and Bach's *Magnificat*. She is a member of the choral-vocal faculty of the

Idyllwild Arts Festival Choir and maintains a voice studio at her home in Pasadena.



SATB Choir Conductor: Dr. Trey Davis is Associate Director of Choral Studies at Louisiana State University. He is also the founder and conductor of Red Shift, a professional choir of exceptional vocal artists from throughout the nation. As recipient of the Julius Herford Dissertation Prize, he has presented at national and international conferences of the American Choral Directors Association and the College Music Society. Dr. Davis completed graduate studies in choral conducting at Texas Tech University and Westminster Choir College of Rider University. He holds a degree in music education from Pepperdine University.

Preliminary Performance Registration

Vocal Solo and Small Ensemble Competition

Audition Dates and Locations



- January 12:** Fullerton Union High School (*Host: Scott Hedgecock*)
January 19: Providence High School (*Host: Marisa Bradfield*)
January 26: Newbury Park High School (*Host: John Sargent*)
February 9: Irvine High School (*Host: Tina Peterson*)
February 9: Rancho Cucamonga High School (*Host: Kelley Squires*)

Performance Guidelines - Quick Tips

- All registrations must have director approval.
- Directors or voice teachers must be current SCVA members.
- When performing in an ensemble, only one vocalist per part is allowed.
- Ensemble participants can have a group size of three to eight vocalists.
- All solo performances must be accompanied.
- All performers must supply their own accompanist.
- All solo performances must be memorized. Ensemble performances may choose to perform with scores.
- To be eligible for the Vocal Solo competition, students must perform a Classical, Musical Theatre, or Jazz standard solo. A selection from the 26 Italian Art Song book or equivalent is recommended.

Online Application & Payment Deadline

Monday, January 5, 2019

www.scvachoral.org

For further questions and information, please email
marisa.bradfield@providencehigh.org

How Do I Register?

Step 1:

Register your Performance

www.scvachoral.org

Step 2:

Select the Performance Category

*Classical or
Musical Theatre / Jazz

*Competitive, Non-Competitive,
Rating or Comments only

Step 3

Pay the Registration Fee

\$30 for soloists
\$35 for small ensembles



SCVA applicants who earn a superior rating will automatically qualify to participate in the CMEA State Solo and Small Ensemble Finals Competition.

For more information, please visit:

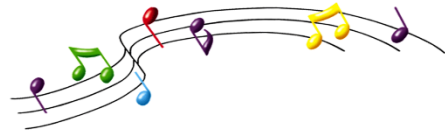
www.calmusiced.com

2019 SCVA Jr. High Honor Choir: Audition Requirements

Rhonda Lynn Bauer, VP – Jr. High Honor Choir

Happy Fall, fellow Choir Directors! Jr. High Honor Choir auditions are right around the corner. Begin preparing your students now! A great way to do this is to incorporate one or two of the elements required for the audition in your warm-ups each day, (all elements are sung a cappella).

- Sing a major scale up and down
- Sing a major triad and a minor triad
- Sing an octave
- Sight read one melodic and one rhythmic example
- Sing tonal memory patterns
- Sing "America" / "My Country 'Tis of Thee" (first verse only)



Auditions are open to ALL students grades 6th – 9th, regardless of the school attended. Building these skills each day will give your students the tools to have a successful audition!

SAVE THE DATES

Online Registration: December 1, 2018 – January 11, 2019

Auditions: January 19 & 26, 2019

VOCAL JAZZ & A CAPPELLA FESTIVAL/CLINIC

Christine Mocha, VP – Jazz / Acappella

Mark your calendars NOW for WEDNESDAY MARCH 13 TH, 2019

- Now accepting novice-advanced junior-high and a cappella high school ensembles
 - Registration now open, visit SCVACHORAL.ORG (under events)
- Featuring our Headline Performers **MPACT!** 7:30pm Concert – Tickets \$10.00
 - Valencia H.S. Theater 27801 N. Dickason Dr. Valencia, Ca. 91355

More information on the Festival

This festival will consist of 10-15 groups performing throughout the day. Each group performs 2-3 pieces on stage followed by an onstage learning clinic by our adjudicators. If groups opt for performing Vocal Jazz with accompaniment, instrumentalists can be provided for an additional cost. Up to 18 dynamic microphones are available for each group to use.

Each group will perform in a flight of 4 groups. Students will watch at least two groups before or after their warm up and performance/clinic while other schools watch in support. Though directors may choose to be scored privately or just adjudicated, this is a friendly learning festival and not a competition. SCVA Plaques will be awarded privately as Superior, Excellent, Good, Fair or participant if desired.

A Colorful Plate *Melva Morrison, Festivals*

Mom always said your dinner plate should be filled with **colorful**, **varied** and different **textured** foods – it makes for a healthier diet. In the same way, our repertoire music be just as **colorful**. Choir members deserve to be presented with a palate of many choices. If they only sing repertoire that they already love, it will be like the diet that many of them consume – fast food and energy drinks. **Repertoire selection is our most important job as choral artists**. If you haven't made your choices for festival literature already, set aside time to think about possibilities.

Consider checking out the repertoire lists on the SCVA and ACDA websites and all-state honor choir song choices; enlist suggestions from colleagues; dig through all those festival programs and choices you made during reading sessions from years past and have tucked away waiting for the right choir or the right time.

Enjoy the process!

Deadline to apply to host a festival is November 1st – why not give it a try this year?



CMEA State Choral Festival Adjudicator Announcement

Nancy Ludwig, CMEA State Choral Festival Chairperson



CMEA is excited to announce its adjudicator panel for the 2019 CMEA State Choral Festival! This year, our panel will include:

Dr. Joseph Modica
University of Redlands



Lori Marie Rios
College of the Canyons



Dr. Angel Vázquez-Ramos
California State University, Bakersfield



Sponsored by World Projects, this event will take place on March 20, 2019 at the Musco Center for the Arts (muscocenter.org) at Chapman University, One University Drive, Orange, CA 92866.

Apply online at <http://www.calmusiced.com/index.php/cmea/state-festivals> by Nov. 1, 2018.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

KNOW YOUR CHORAL COMMUNITY

What do you feel are your strengths as a teacher?

"I'm really good at connecting with students and connecting students together so that the music-making process is more than the academic study of performance and more about building humanity. Life lessons are a regular part of my curriculum, and I prefer to say that I teach students using music rather than teaching music to students."

What are some of your goals with your students this year?

"We're making more of a concerted effort to get the freshmen plugged in more to our choir department social activities, and we've instituted a mentorship program that connect freshmen with an upperclassman in Madrigals."

Which of your Choral Colleagues deserves a shout-out?

"Chelsea Dehn (Foothill HS in Tustin) inspires me regularly with her work with her students. Her students sing with such incredible vocalism and musicality. Every time I hear her choir, I am left with a desire to work harder to get that kind of tone quality out of my own students."



Keith Hancock

2017 Grammy Music Educator of the Year and has taught 17 years at Tesoro High School in Rancho Santa Margarita in South Orange County. Mr. Hancock will be presenting a session at the upcoming SCVA Fall In-service on October 12th. Don't miss it!



SHOW CHOIR NEWS

Patty Breitag, VP – Show Choirs

NOTICE THE CHANGE OF DATE!! SCVA Show Choir Spectacular 2019 will be held on April 27, 2019. We will be sharing the venue location in the next newsletter.

Groups can register on our SCVA Web Site.

Show Choir camps can be a fun summer activity and field trip for your show choirs. There are many show choir camps in California, the Southeast US, as well as the Midwest. These can be a great resource for veteran teachers or new teachers to learn/review choreography and vocal techniques and to meet other show choir directors and choreographers from around the country.

When I was at North Kansas City High School in the 1980's and 1990's, we sent our new show choir students to Millikin University for a week during the summer. It was great fun! Teachers and students participated in show choir activities and workshops to develop and enhance our show choir programs.

Show Choir Camps of America, for instance, are well-supervised and structured environments. A typical day would include group choreography and vocal rehearsals, workshops led by well-known show choir guests, guest show choir performances, student teacher/staff talent showcases. Costs vary per camp but usually include housing, meals and a t-shirt.

SCVA CLOSE HARMONY FESTIVALS

Antone Rodich, VP-Close Harmony Festivals

It is my absolute pleasure to be your Close Harmony Festivals Chair for the 2018-2020 term. You are probably wondering what my title actually means. The purpose of the Close Harmony Festivals Chair is to advocate to teachers the importance of having their students sing more barbershop and a cappella music within their choir program. I am thrilled to represent this unique art form in singing, and I cannot wait to share some awesome harmony events with you and your students.

As a Barbershop Harmony Society (BHS) member for the last 9 years, I have sung with many choruses like Masters of Harmony and Boomtown Chorus. I am currently singing with the Westminster Chorus. The Westminster Chorus is the 2009 "Choir of the World" Pavarotti Trophy winner, and the BHS International Chorus Gold Medalist for 2007, 2010 & 2015. Go to www.westminsterchorus.org for more info!

I strongly encourage high school directors to start up a barbershop quartet. This is a great and positive way to recruit young singers into your choir program, and the students absolutely love it. Interested in getting one started? Go to www.barbershop.org/education

Effective June 19, 2018, membership in the BHS is open to EVERYONE. They are now welcoming women to join the BHS as members. For more info, go to www.barbershop.org/everyoneinharmony.

Listed below are upcoming events for your singers!

Thursday, October 11, 2019:

Shoptoberfest, High School Quartet Workshop 6PM @ Cal Baptist University Register here:
www.tinyurl.com/shoptoberfest18

December 15 & 16, 2018

Christmas with Masters of Harmony @ Carpenter Center, Long Beach
www.mastersofharmony.org/shows/

Saturday, February 2, 2019:

Young Women in Harmony Festival: Diva Day!
www.harborliteschorus.org/outreach-diva-day/

February 2019:

SCVA Close Harmony Festival – Young Men's Edition
Details coming soon!

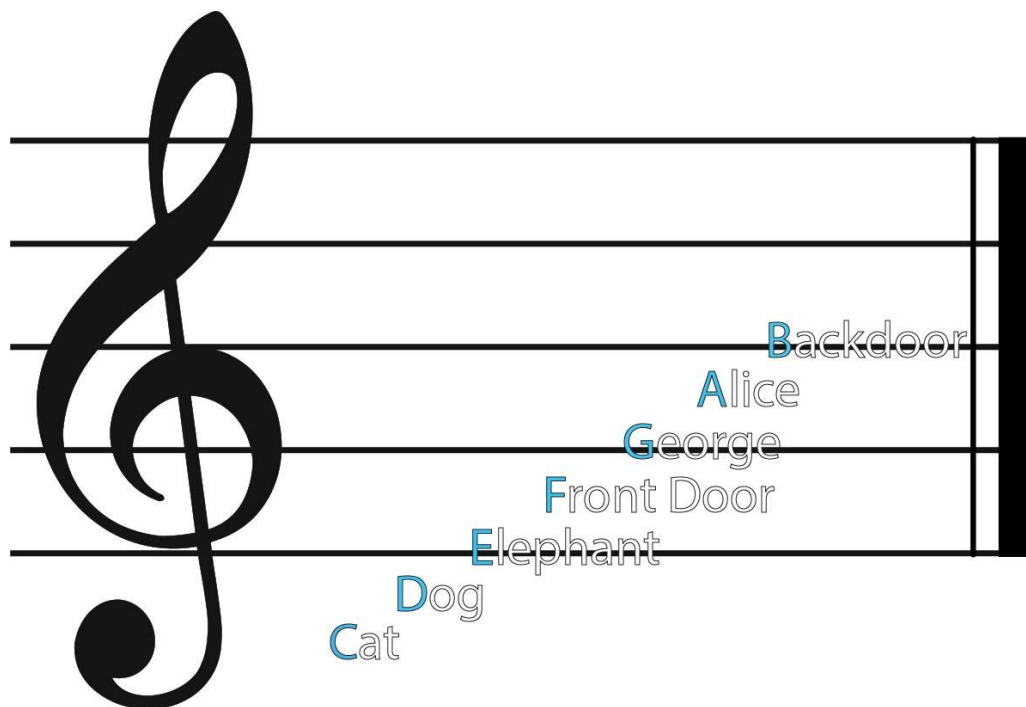
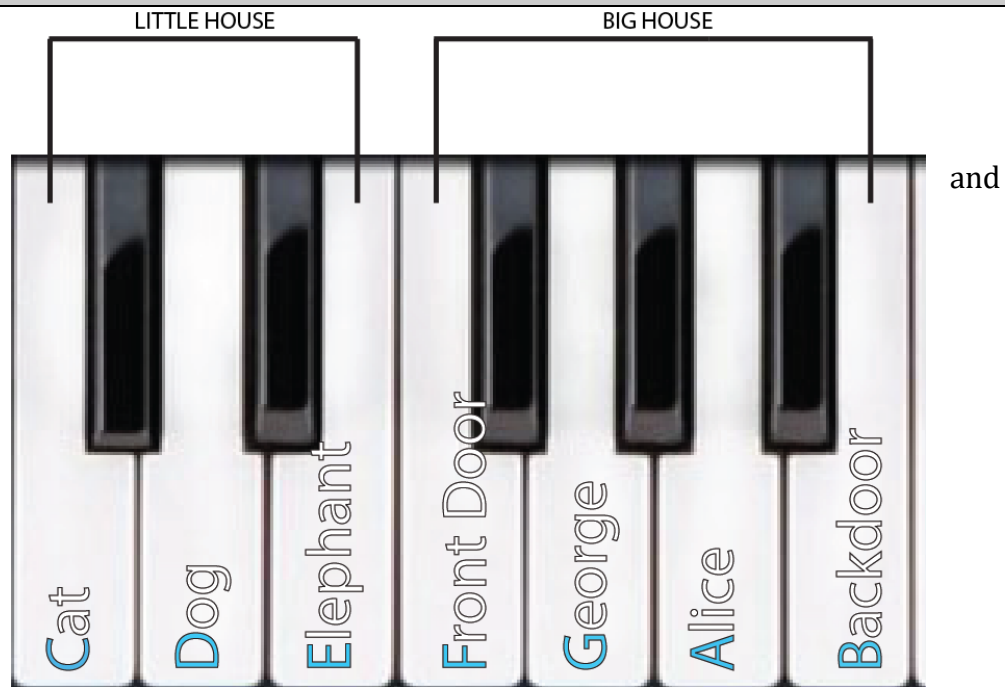
July 2019: First-Time-Ever Southwest Harmony Explosion



Quick piano skills for your choral students

Teach students (especially new-musician students) how to play their starting notes and pitches on the piano. "There are two houses on the piano. The dog house, and the people house. In the little house is a dog. Trying to get in to the dog house is the cat (too small) and an elephant (too big). In the people house live George and Alice. The house has a front door and back door."

Teach them pitch through names stories:



TEACH THE CHORD

TRIADS

MAJOR $\boxed{4} \searrow \swarrow 3$ half steps from the root

MINOR $\searrow \swarrow 3 \boxed{4}$ half steps from the root

DIM $\searrow \swarrow 3 \searrow \swarrow 3$ half steps from the root

AUG $\boxed{4} \boxed{4}$ half steps from the root

7th CHORDS

MAJOR7 $\boxed{4} \searrow \swarrow 3 \boxed{4}$ half steps from the root

DOM7 $\boxed{4} \searrow \swarrow 3 \searrow \swarrow 3$ half steps from the root

MIN7 $\searrow \swarrow 3 \boxed{4} \searrow \swarrow 3$ half steps from the root

Ø $\searrow \swarrow 3 \searrow \swarrow 3 \boxed{4}$ half steps from the root

0 $\searrow \swarrow 3 \searrow \swarrow 3 \searrow \swarrow 3$ half steps from the root

I learned over time that these were the easiest ways for my students to learn chords and their notes on the scale in relation to playing them on the piano. I learned these concepts from students, other teachers, and from trial and error over a decade of how to get my students playing and singing the piano as **quickly** as possible. Want your choral students to become better singers? Get them playing piano. Begin by having students practice root triads in a fake book chart or chord charts of a song they want to sing. Remember to tell students the “root” of the chord is always 0. Count half steps from root to make each chord.

-Christine Tavares-Mocha, VP - SCVA *Contemporary A Cappella / Vocal Jazz*

Southern California Vocal Association

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

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



IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

Sr High Honor Choir Auditions @ Various Sites (12pm-4pm)	October 6, 2018
SCVA Fall In-Service	October 12, 2018
Festival Host Registration Closes	November 1, 2018
Acappella and Vocal Jazz Honor Choir Rehearsal	November 15-16, 2018
Acappella and Vocal Jazz Honor Choir Performance	November 16, 2018
High Honor Choir Weekend (3 days THIS YEAR!)	November 15-17, 2018
High Honor Choir Performance	November 17, 2018
Jr High Honor Choir Online Registration	Dec 1, 2018 – Jan 11, 2019
Jr High Honor Choir Auditions	Jan 19 & 26, 2019
Vocal Solo and Small Ensemble Auditions (Fullerton Union HS)	January 12, 2019
Vocal Solo and Small Ensemble Auditions (Providence HS)	January 19, 2019
Vocal Solo and Small Ensemble Auditions (Newbury Park HS)	January 26, 2019
SCVA Close Harmony Festival – Young Men’s Edition	February, 2019
Vocal Solo and Small Ensemble Auditions (Irvine HS)	February 9, 2019
Vocal Solo and Small Ensemble Auditions (Rancho Cucamonga HS)	February 9, 2019
Vocal Jazz & A Cappella Festival/Clinic	March 13, 2019
CMEA State Choral Festival	March 20, 2019
SCVA Show Choir Spectacular	April 27, 2019