



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA VOCAL ASSOCIATION
OCTOBER, 2022

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Tammi Alderman

“No one is born hating another person because of the color of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite.” ~Nelson Mandela

As we move through October, I am reminded of the beautiful quote above by Nelson Mandela. We are not born with hate in our hearts. It is taught, and we can teach love. No matter what your political beliefs, religion, race, gender, or sexual identity, we can all still find middle ground. We can find things that we have in common. We can appreciate our differences and treat each other with respect. Which leads me directly to another presidential quote.

“Our most basic common link is that we all inhabit this planet. We all breathe the same air. We all cherish our children's future. And we are all mortal.” ~John F. Kennedy

No matter what grade level you teach, your students are experiencing a pivotal time in life. Remember that you are not just the “chorus teacher.” You teach respect and character education every class period of the day. You impart upon your students the value of human life—of every human life. There is no rule that we all have to like each other, but we can find commonalities and shared interests. We can listen to each other. We can teach that making another person feel less than—for any reason—is wrong, plain and simple. Modeling and teaching respect is the joy and burden we share. Music is a gift and, if you choose, a vehicle to reinforce the teaching of love, kindness and respect that you model daily.

We hope that you are able to join us on October 21st for our Fall In-Service with Roger Emerson as our headliner. It will be a lovely day of singing, connecting, and learning no matter the genre or grade level you teach. Register here: https://scvachoral.org/fall_inservice.php

Congratulations to all of you who took your students through the arduous process of honor choir auditions. We are looking to have an incredible weekend, and concert, in November. Thank you to the countless teachers who spent time preparing, judging and hosting. A special shout-out to Bethany Encina, Kristen Walton and Sara Logsdon for their continued work to bring the 2022 SCVA Honor Choirs to life.

Looking forward to seeing many of you in a couple of short weeks at the Fall In-Service and many more of you in Redlands in November.

Tammi Alderman
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Past President

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Ken Haro
VP I - Festivals

Dan Martensen
VP II - Festivals

Alan Garcia
VP-Festival Adjudication

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Jr High Honor Choir

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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



Music Rhapsody



Juventino
Aceves
CSUF



Hal Leonard



Kaitlin
Holt
Saugus HS

THERE'S STILL TIME!



Fall In-Service

Oct. 21 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

scvachoral.org

COST:

Early Registration: \$75
(deadline Sept 15)

Late Registration: \$85
(after Sept 15)

SCVA Collegiate members
\$20 (includes SCVA Yearly
Membership)

SESSIONS INCLUDE:

- Rebuilding and Invigorating Your Choral Program
- Introducing Jazz into the Traditional Choral Program
- Elementary Music Sessions (Music Rhapsody)
- Voice from the SLP Perspective
- New Music, Reading Session
- And more...

SCVA Festivals Team

Festival Host Deadline Extended to October 22nd!

As you are planning the coming festival season, please consider SCVA festivals as a possibility to either host or attend! With your help, it will surely be a highlight your students will look forward to from one year to the next. We are looking for additional middle school host sites!

Advantages of hosting a festival include:

- * Selecting a festival date that works with your schedule!
 - * Not having to worry about transportation!
 - * Not having to worry about coverage!
- * Providing local schools with a space to perform for one another!
- * You will be directly helping to rebuild our choral community!
- * You are allowed to register one performing ensemble for free!

Approach your festival season with ease and register to host an SCVA choral festival at:

scvachoral.org



*Vocal Solo
Competition*

*& Small Ensemble
Festival*



IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, February 24th

Audition Application & Round 1 Submission
Deadline

Friday, March 3rd

Results for Finalists Announced

Friday, May 5th

Final Submission Deadline

Live Finals Round: TBD

**We Look forward to
hearing your submission!**



For More Information: www.scvachoral.org
Questions: Marisa.Bradfield@providencehigh.org
or Avakiagk@PierceCollege.edu

MIDDLE SCHOOL/9TH GRADE HONOR CHOIR

MARCELO MARTÍNEZ MARROQUÍN



I am excited to announce that this year's Middle School/9th Grade Honor Choir conductor will be Dr. Ángel Vázquez-Ramos from CSU Bakersfield. The honor choir performance will be held at Portola High School in Irvine, on May 6, 2023. They have a beautiful auditorium and I'm looking forward to seeing everyone there. I hope many of you will encourage your middle school and 9th grade students to participate. Dr. Vázquez-Ramos is such a fun conductor to work with and I know your students will love him.

As a reminder to High School teachers, the Middle School/9th Grade Honor Choir is open to all 9th graders also. If you have students that did not make it into the High School Honor Choir this year or were not quite ready for the audition in September, this is a great opportunity for them. They will still be able to

say they did honor choir all 4 years in High School. More information is soon to come.

Auditions will be January 21 and 28 at various locations. Please consider volunteering your site to host auditions. You can sign up on the SCVA website and will receive emails from me, asking you to do so. We will also need many judges to help us adjudicate. Both hosts and judges will be compensated for their time.

For the audition, students will be required to sing "America" (My Country 'Tis of Thee), a cappella. They will need to sing a major scale, major and minor triad, and an octave. The third part of the audition will be 4 tonal memory exercises. This will be followed by rhythmic and melodic sight reading.



Close Harmony Festival – SATB Edition

Marco Rodriguez – VP of Close Harmony

SCVA has some very exciting news! On **Saturday, February 11, 2023**, SCVA, and Barbershop Harmony Society will be hosting the SCVA Close Harmony Festival in collaboration. This festival encompasses students from middle school thru high school, learning songs in the barbershop style, and also some a-cappella music. **The location and registration for the February Event of the Close Harmony Festival will be announced shortly!**

If you have a high school barbershop quartet (SATB, SSAA, TTBB) that would like to be a part of the Barbershop Quartet Workshop (more info to come), and possibly sing in the evening performance, please email me separately.

You can bring as many students as you desire (SATB). Registration, paperwork and other information will be available on the SCVA website and sent through the SCVA email database in October, and in the next SCVA newsletter. Stay tuned!



Here is the tentative schedule for February 2023:

9:00 - 10:00 : Registration (name tags and T-shirts) Bring your music!

10:00 - 10:30 : Introductions, warm-up and demonstration of the barbershop style

10:30 - 12:00 : Rehearsal

12:00 - 12:45 : Lunch

12:45 - 1:45 : Sectional rehearsals

1:45 - 2:00 : Break

2:00 - 3:30 : Final Rehearsal

3:30 : Performing Arts Doors Open

4:00 : Showtime



If you have any questions about this amazing event, feel free to email Marco Rodriguez

(VP of Close Harmony) marcoantoniorodriguezjr@gmail.com

Musical Chairs: Choir Formation Edition

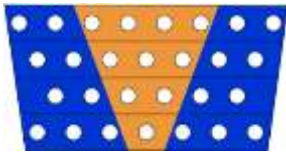
Michael Ushino, President Elect

Since the time I started singing in choirs, I was always fascinated by the change that would occur to the sound of a choir just by moving a singer elsewhere in the formation. Formations will always change based on your personal experiences in choir, your acoustic tastes, and the voices you have in your ensemble. Here are few general acoustical principles and concepts to help guide you when building your next choral formation.

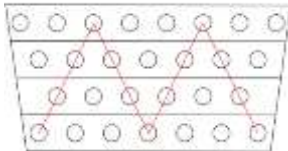
Distance: When you increase the distance between the singer and the audience, sound pressure decreases exponentially.

Tip: Your very loud singer that everyone can hear should be in the back of the formation. If you have a curved formation, they should be in the center.

“Loudness”: Generally, lower pitches need to be higher in sound pressure to be perceived as equal in loudness to a higher pitch. **Tip:** Having your higher voices in the front row may not always be the best idea as they will always be perceived by the listener as being louder than the lower voices, even if they are attempting to sing the same dynamic level.



Zones: Dr. Charlene Archibeque presented at the 2016 WDACDA Conference a concept where you can manipulate the color of the ensemble’s sound based on where you position your lighter or darker voices in relation to the edges of the ensemble. **Tip:** If you want a darker color of sound, you can move your Soprano 2’s, Alto 2’s, Tenor 2’s, and Bass 2’s to the outside edges of the ensemble while the higher voice split can stand closer to the center. This works vice versa if you want a lighter overall tone.



Zig Zag: Dr. Archibeque also presented the idea of creating a Zig Zagged line of your strongest singers throughout the ensemble so that they can all hear each other while positively influencing the precision and overall sound of the ensemble.

Have fun and experiment with your own ensemble to find their best sound. Good luck!



Help Needed!



Use the QR code to sign up for a volunteer position. Teachers with two or more participating students are expected to serve at least one volunteer shift. Over 50 positions are still open!

We can't do this without you! Volunteering makes our event excellent and allows you the opportunity to observe our amazing guest conductors as they inspire your students!

scvahonorchoir@gmail.com

Coordinators
Bethany Encina, VP1
Kristen Walton, VP2



Dr. Nicholle Andrews
SATB Honor Choir



Dr. Iris Levine
SSAA Honor Choir



Dr. Alicia Walker
TTBB Honor Choir

WEBSITE UPDATE

Mark Freedkin, SCVA Webmaster



Your E-mail Address Matters

When you registered or renewed your SCVA Membership, you specified your e-mail address. You can use either your personal e-mail address or your school e-mail address, both of which are unique to you.

When your students register to participate in an SCVA event, they should always 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. Some of you might have multiple aliases for your e-mail address, but our system only allows one e-mail address, otherwise it will reject any student applications (such as Honor Choirs or Vocal Solo Competition).

When that happens, the application is rejected and there is nothing for me to fix. 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. It is as if they had not submitted any application at all.

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.

E-mail Broadcast Messages

A number of automated e-mail confirmation and broadcast messages are periodically sent from our website to SCVA members to notify them about various events. Sometimes those broadcast messages are blocked by certain school district's e-mail servers, which means you won't receive those messages. Please check with your school district's network administrators to ensure that your e-mail system can accept incoming messages from "admin@scvachoral.org" to prevent those messages from being rejected as SPAM (unsolicited e-mail).

Please also be aware that if you simply reply to any of those automated broadcast messages, your response will be sent to me (as webmaster), and I must then forward your message the originator. For more efficient communication, please do not reply directly to any of those messages. Instead, please send your 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, since that will result in a larger processing fee being added to your total transaction amount.

You can also use a single PayPal transaction to pay the application or registration fee for multiple events at the same time (such as Festival Registration Fees), rather than checking out after submitting each item. Simply add each item to your current shopping cart, and then click on the Continue Shopping link to return to the SCVA website. After you have completed all of the items you wish to purchase, you can then proceed to the checkout page and receive a single invoice that lists all of those items.

If you have any comments, questions or problems with any aspect of our website please contact Mark Freedkin at mfreedkin@yahoo.com or (714) 357-1187

IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

2022

Festival Host Registration Deadline	Now - Oct 22
SCVA Fall In-Service Late Registration	Now – Oct 21
HS Honor Choir Audition Results Posted	Oct 15
Registration for Festivals Opens	Oct 17
HS Honor Choir Weekend	Nov 17-19
Vocal Jazz Contemporary A Cappella	Nov 18
HC Performance	
Applications for New Adjudicators Deadline	Nov 30

2023

Junior High Honor Choir Auditions	Jan 21 & 28
Close Harmony Festival	Feb 11
Vocal Solo Audition Application and Round 1 Submission deadline	Feb 24
Vocal Solo Finalist Results Announced	March 3
Vocal Solo Final Submission Deadline	May 5
Junior High Honor Choir Concert	May 6
Vocal Solo Live Finals Round	TBD

Please follow our social media accounts (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter) for updates on upcoming events that will be finalized prior to our next newsletter publication.