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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Karen Garrett

Reflections on the Choral Art

"If you don't know where you are going, you'll end up someplace else."

— Yogi Berra

This is my 20th year teaching choral music. I've learned a few things along the way, mostly from making every mistake in the book, followed by self-evaluating and correcting. This is the beauty of the choral art - we're constantly learning. I, like you, have too much to do and constantly find myself upset at the minutia of field trip forms, booster meetings, IEP meetings, fundraising, etc. The list of things we do that have nothing to do with music is endless, and can get in the way of our essential cycle of teaching, making mistakes, and learning. To make your day more filled with the joy of music making, I offer two simple fundamentals: **Delegate** and **Planning**.

Delegate: Make a list of all the non-musical tasks you are required to do and put a check mark next to everyone that you can delegate -either to a student leadership team or the booster club. Yes, you will have to train them and monitor them, but you now have help. As the years go on you will find that you are no longer expected to count the candy money or make the posters. This is a wonderful way to teach your students leadership skills. Some tasks, of course, cannot be delegated. You will have to continue with IEP meetings, paperwork and other tasks required by your school administration, but many can be incorporated in your plan.

Planning: Take the time to plan and you will feel less stress and feel more satisfaction. It is imperative that you make a plan for what the students will learn and when. Here is a suggested process for feeling more in control of your day, semester and year so that the focus stays on music learning.

1) In spring of the previous school year plan all concert dates/confirm venues and put the school's calendar in your planner as soon as you receive it. Hold auditions and get a feel for the skill level of your future choirs. Touch base with Counselors about schedules and student assignments.

2) In August confirm all school dates with administration. Map out the quarter and semester end dates along with any vacations/assembly days/testing dates., etc. Include the stuff you couldn't delegate in your plan. Now you know how many teaching days and hours you have.

3) Choose your repertoire and plan your concert programs. Set aside many hours for this project; order perusal copies, create a spreadsheet that includes lists of key areas, tempi, language, musical period, etc. so that you are choosing a variety of educationally valuable music. This is your biggest job as a teacher/conductor. Well-chosen repertoire is the key to a successful year. Do score study so that the sequencing of your rehearsals bring the best musical outcomes.

4) Map out your vocal technique, sight reading, aural skills and theory benchmarks. If there are other important standards you wish to address, include them in this planning. What will each choir achieve and when? What text/method will you use? What assessment tools will you use and when?

With these goals and benchmarks marked in your master calendar the daily lessons will begin to build themselves. Mark in your planner each day what was accomplished and what needs to be addressed in the next rehearsal. Be organized but flexible.

Use of these two simple fundamental tools, frees up our time for ample periods of reflection (e.g. on mistakes), allowing us move forward in improving the choral art, both for ourselves, our students and our choral programs,

Junior High/Middle School/Ninth Grade Honor Choir

Marcelo Martínez, VP-Junior High/Middle School Honor Choir

At my middle school we just had our first auditions for solos for our up coming winter concert. I encouraged everyone that was interested to audition. It took some time to get through everyone but it always brings me joy to see students willing to put themselves out there and do their very best. As auditions for the Junior High/Middle School/9th grade SCVA Honor Choir approach, I hope that you will encourage your students to audition, even if they might not feel ready. As I tell my students, the more you audition the easier it gets and the better you get at auditioning. Auditioning itself is a skill that needs practice.

We will have auditions on two different weekends: Saturday, January 21, 2017 and Saturday, January 28, 2017. Several choral directors through out Southern California have been kind enough to give up their Saturday mornings and open up their schools to give our students this wonderful opportunity. Make sure you especially encourage your men to audition. The application to audition is up on the SCVA site. The application closes January 13, 2017. Our guest conductor this year is Dr. John St. Marie with accompanist Christopher Luthi. Honor Choir will be hosted at the Los Alamitos High School Performing Arts Center in Los Alamitos.

Young Women's and Young Men's Harmony Festivals

Mark Freedkin, VP of Barbershop Harmony Festivals



Applications for this year's Barbershop Harmony Festivals for Young Women and Young Men are coming in, 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 12th annual "**Diva Day**" Young Women in Harmony Festival, sponsored by the **Harborlites Chorus**, will be held on Saturday, February 4, and the 17th annual "**Young Men's Harmony Festival**" will be held on Saturday, February 11, 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.

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.

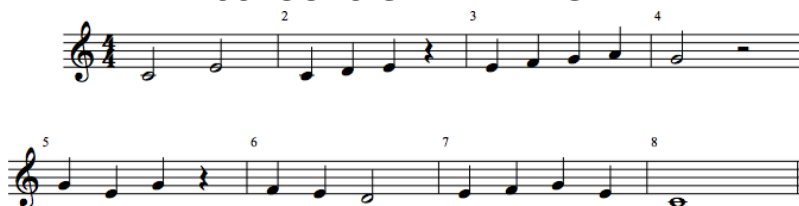
We look forward to receiving your applications. Please contact us if you have any questions about our festivals.

Fourteen Sightreading Festivals in 2017!

Jennifer Stanley, Vice President of Festival Adjudication

There are 14 middle school and high school festivals that will be offering sightreading this year! SCVA continues to focus on making sightreading accessible and positive for every choir. You choose the level and voicing that works best for your ensemble. Visit the new SCVA website to register for a sightreading festival today!

MIDDLE SCHOOL SIGHTREADING LEVEL 1



HIGH SCHOOL SIGHTREADING LEVEL 2

SCVA

Festival Sightreading Information

Home / Festivals
/ Festival Sightreading Information

Procedures & Rules, and Sightreading Adjudication Form

HIGH SCHOOL

- Rubric of High School Levels 1-6
- Available High School Voicings and Ranges
- 2013 High School Sightreading Examples

MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Rubric of Middle School Levels 1-4
- Available Middle School Voicings and Ranges
- 2014 Middle School Sightreading Examples

Buy Reproducible Sightreading Materials from Masterworks Press

Vocal Jazz and A-Cappella News

Christine Tavares-Mocha, VP-Vocal Jazz

Vocal Jazz and A-Cappella Festival - Friday March 10, 2017

- ✓ **True North** to headline the SCVA Evening Concert. Tickets are \$6.
- ✓ Adjudicators: UNC Vocal Jazz Director Kerry Marsh and ARORA extraordinaire Christopher Harrison.
- ✓ The festival includes an on-stage clinic with great feedback from our exceptional adjudicators
- ✓ **Registration is now open!** Visit www.scvachoral.org

2017 California All State Jazz Choir Auditions – Recorded Auditions Due Dec 1st!

- 10-14 students will be selected to sing under the direction of Roger Treece at the 2017 California All-State Music Educators Conference in San Jose, CA on **February 15-18, 2017**
- Roger Treece is a composer, arranger, producer and singer who creates music that combines traditional classical elements with jazz, funk, gospel, and world. He was associate producer, arranger and singer on Josh Groban's #1 selling album, ALL THAT ECHOES and the mastermind behind Bobby McFerrin's ground-breaking release VOCABULARIES.
- For more information, visit www.cbda.org and click on auditions

Festival Season 2017 looks FABULOUS!!!

Nancy Ludwig VPI Festivals

Thank you, thank you, **THANK YOU** to all SCVA members who have volunteered to host a festival this year! We have MANY new hosts, and of course those of you who have been regular hosts for years. Thanks to all of you we can offer nearly 70 middle school and high school festivals this year, which includes 13 who offer sight-reading! This creates an enormous opportunity for us as directors to enrich the lives of our choristers through festival participation.

Festival registration can now be accessed online, and many are already full. The chart below represents all festivals with availability as of Nov. 15. The deadline to register for a festival is March 1, 2017, but early registration is encouraged. Thinking back to the 2016 festival season, please make a note that last year's festivals filled up VERY quickly, so take some time over the next week or so to peruse the schedule and register ASAP to insure attendance at the festival location that works best for you. Late registrations will not be accepted. You may access the online registration form at <http://www.scvachoral.org/festivals.php>.

Junior High/Middle School Festivals

Day	Date	Time	Site	City	Level	Type	Host
Fri	2/25	9:00 am	Central MS	Riverside	Open	Open	Jennifer Meregini
Wed	3/08	10:30 am	Ladera Vista Junior High School of the Arts	Fullerton	Open	Open	Andrea Calvo
Fri	3/10	10:00 am	Shivela MS	Murrieta	Open	Clinic	Lavinia Tikasingh
Thurs	3/16	10:00 am	Las Flores MS	Las Flores	Open	Open	Elena Benefield
Fri	3/17	10:00 am	Rio Hondo College	Whittier	Open	Clinic	Kellori Dower
Tues	3/21	9:00 am	Santa Fe Christian School Chapel	Solana Beach	Open	Mixed	Rhonda Fleming
Wed	3/22	10:00 am	Rancho Starbuck Intermediate School	Whittier	Open	Open	Jeremy Fletcher
Tues	3/28	12:00 pm	Menifee Valley MS	Menifee	Open	Open	Tom Oliver
Thurs	4/13	10:00 am	Oak MS Sightreading	Los Alamitos	Open	Open	Rachelle Randeon
Thurs	4/13	1:00 pm	Oak MS Sightreading	Los Alamitos	Open	Open	Rachelle Randeon
Tues	4/18	9:00 am	James L. Day MS	Temecula	Open	Open	Patricia Halic
Tues	4/18	1:00 pm	James L. Day MS	Temecula	Open	Open	Patricia Halic
Thurs	4/20	10:00 am	TeWinkle MS	Costa Mesa	Open	Open	Tim McFadden
Thurs	4/20	10:00 am	Las Flores MS	Las Flores	Open	Open	Elena Benefield
Wed	4/26	10:00 am	Hughes MS	Long Beach	Open	Open	Steven Clausen
Fri	4/28	10:00 am	Spring View MS Sightreading	Huntington Beach	Open	Open	Marcelo Martinez
Fri	4/28	10:00 am	Valadez MS Academy	Placentia	Open	Open	Heather Clausen
Fri	4/28	12:00 pm	Cathedral City HS Sightreading	Cathedral City	Open	Clinic	Jeffrey Kopasz
Thurs	5/04	10:30 am	Bernardo Yorba MS	Yorba Linda	Open	Open	Linda Nason
Fri	5/12	1:00 pm	Segerstrom HS	Santa Ana	Open	Mixed	Greg Ellis
Fri	5/12	1:00 pm	Ramirez Intermediate	Eastvale	Novice	Clinic	Kyle Betts
Tues	5/16	10:00 am	William and Jane Bristol Civic Auditorium	Bellflower	Open	Open	Jae Shu

High School Festivals

Day	Date	Time	Site	City	Level	Type	Host
Mon	2/06	9:00 am	Santa Susana HS	Simi Valley	Open	Open	Bevin Abbe
Mon	3/06	6:00 pm	Montebello HS	Montebello	Adv	Open	Jessie Flasschoen
Thurs	3/09	9:00 am	Vista del Lago HS	Moreno Valley	Open	Open	Tyler Bettge
Thurs	3/09	10:00 am	Bloomington HS	Bloomington	Open	Open	Ryan Duckworth
Fri	3/17	9:00 am	Murrieta Mesa HS Sightreading	Murrieta	Open	Clinic	Brad Allen
Fri	3/17	12:00 pm	Murrieta Mesa HS Sightreading	Murrieta	Adv	Clinic	Brad Allen
Fri	3/17	3:00 pm	Rio Hondo College	Whittier	Open	Open	Kellori Dower
Tues	3/21	9:00 am	Chaparral HS	Temecula	Open	Open	Rob Hodo
Thurs	3/23	9:00 am	Fallbrook HS Sightreading	Fallbrook	Open	Open	Heather Smith
Thurs	3/23	10:00 am	Mission Viejo HS	Mission Viejo	Adv	Open	Sarah Norris
Tues	3/28	4:00 pm	Golden Valley HS	Santa Clarita	Open	Open	Janie Prucha
Wed	3/29	10:00 am	Segerstrom HS	Santa Ana	Adv	Mixed	Grace Shen
Thurs	3/30	10:00 am	Fontana HS	Fontana	Open	Open	Jennifer Esquivel
Thurs	3/30	5:00 pm	Walnut HS	Walnut	Open	Open	Elizabeth Lopez
Mon	4/03	6:00 pm	Eastside HS	Lancaster	Open	Open	Dan Martensen
Tues	4/04	9:00 am	Santa Fe Christian School Chapel	Solana Beach	Open	Mixed	Rhonda Fleming
Wed	4/05	2:00 pm	Glendale HS	Glendale	Open	Open	Grace Sheldon-Williams
Wed	4/05	4:00 pm	Rosemead HS	Rosemead	Open	Open	Ruth Gray
Tues	4/11	10:00am	Segerstrom HS	Santa Ana	Open	Women's	Grace Shen
Wed	4/12	10:30 am	Segerstrom HS	Santa Ana	Open	Men's	Grace Shen
Mon	4/17	12:30 pm	Palomar College	San Marcos	Open	Clinic	John Russell
Wed	4/19	9:00 am	Gabrielino HS	San Gabriel	Adv	Mixed	David Pitts
Wed	4/19	2:30 pm	Ramon C. Cortines HS Sightreading	Los Angeles	Open	Open	Drew Lewis
Thurs	4/20	9:00 am	Rim of the World HS	Lake Arrowhead	Open	Clinic	Abir Naim
Fri	4/21	7:00 pm	Canyon HS	Canyon Country	Adv	Mixed	Mary Purdy
Wed	4/26	1:00 pm	Placentia-Yorba Linda USD PAC	Placentia	Open	Mixed	Michael Fenton
Thurs	4/27	9:00 am	Fullerton Union HS Sightreading	Fullerton	Open	Men/Women	Scott Hedgecock
Thurs	4/27	1:00 pm	Fullerton Union HS Sightreading	Fullerton	Adv	Open	Scott Hedgecock
Fri	4/28	10:00 am	Hamilton HS Sightreading	Los Angeles	Open	Open	Wendy Walsh
Fri	4/28	3:30 pm	Cathedral City HS Sightreading	Cathedral City	Open	Clinic	May LeRoy
Tues	5/02	6:00 pm	Mark Keppel HS	Alhambra	Open	Open	Maurice Azeltine
Thurs	5/04	4:00 pm	El Monte HS	El Monte	Open	Open	Joel Whisler
Fri	5/05	2:00 pm	St. Edward's Catholic Church	Dana Point	Adv	Open	Brian Dehn
Tues	5/16	1:00 pm	William and Jane Bristol Civic Auditorium	Bellflower	Open	Open	Carolyn Kelley

Marisa Rawlins-Bradfield, VP - Vocal Solo Competition

Vocal Solo and Small Ensemble Competition

Preliminary Performance Registration

Audition Dates and Locations

**SATURDAY
JANUARY 7**

Glendale High School
1440 Broadway Ave.
Grace Sheldon-Williams, Host

**SATURDAY
JANUARY 14**

Providence High School
511 S. Buena Vista, Burbank
Marisa Bradfield, Host

**SATURDAY
JANUARY 28**

Fullerton High School
201 E. Chapman Ave.
Scott Hedgecock, Host

**SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 4**

Newbury Park High School
456 N. Reino Rd.
John Sargent, Host

How Do I Register?

- Visit the SCVA website
www.scvachoral.org
- Select Category
Classical
Musical Theatre/Jazz
- Select Adjudication Method
Competitive
Non-Competitive
Rating
Comments Only
- Pay Registration Fee
\$30 - Soloist
\$35 - Small Ensemble

Application & Payment Deadline

JANUARY

2

Please email
marisa.bradfield@providencehigh.org
with any questions you may have!

Performance Guidelines

- All registrations must have director approval.
- Directors or voice teachers must be current SCVA members.
- For ensembles, only one vocalist per part is allowed.
- Ensembles may be 3 to 8 singers.
- All solo performances must be accompanied.
- All performers must provide their own accompanist.
- All solo performances must be memorized.
- Ensembles may choose to perform with scores.
- All repertoire must be selected from the Classical, Musical Theatre, or Jazz genre.

Attention!!

*SCVA participants who earn a Superior rating will be invited
to the CMEA State Solo and Small Ensemble Festival.*

Choral Leadership Academy

**CMEA / California-ACDA / SCVA
CHORAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY**

To be held at the **California All State Music Education Conference (CASMEC)**
San Jose Convention Center, February 17–18, 2017

This event is for high school, community college, and university students interested in the choral music profession. The CLA will bring together high school students who demonstrate an interest in the music profession, together with pre-service college music education majors, for two days of musical and educational activities. These activities will teach musicianship skills, inspire confidence, and build camaraderie among musicians of the next generation. The students in the CLA will:

- sing new literature
- work on their musicianship
- listen to and learn from veterans in the field
- develop friendships that will support them as they begin their careers

We are privileged to have an outstanding headliner, Dr. Jeffrey Benson of San Jose State University, who will bring expertise, humor, and insight to the CLA students' experience. The CLA faculty will include Dr. Chris Peterson (CSU Fullerton), Dr. Angel Vazquez-Ramos (CSU Bakersfield), and Lori Mari Rios (College of the Canyons).

Due to the nature of this event, we must limit our enrollment to 50 students. While acceptance to the CLA is on a "first come, first served" basis, please be aware that we must have a balance of vocal parts as well as a balance of high school and college students. Therefore, as registration moves forward towards our limit, students might have to be placed on a waiting list.

Choral Leadership Academy Timeline:

October 17, 2016: CLA Application Packet will be available on the [CMEA website](#).

December 15, 2016: Deadline to submit your Applications/Recommendations.

January 3, 2017: Singers and directors notified of acceptance via email. (Participants will be accepted on a first come/first served basis, but leadership reserves the right to insure that a balanced choral ensemble is created.)

Important Note: When you receive your notification of acceptance, make your housing and travel arrangements right away!

January 15, 2017: \$75 participation fee due (PayPal or Check).

Ongoing: All CLA members and directors receive email updates regarding event.

February 17-18, 2017: The *Choral Leadership Academy* is held in San Jose during the California All State Music Education Conference, which runs from **February 16-19, 2017**. Participating CLA students will receive free admittance to attend all sessions before and after CLA

Southern California Vocal Association

Santiago High School Attn: Karen Garrett

1395 Foothill Parkway, Corona, CA 92881

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



IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

Solo/Ensemble Festival Application Deadline	January 2, 2017
Vocal Solo Competition Preliminary Rounds	1/7, 1/14, 1/28, 2/4/2017
JH Honor Choir Application Deadline	January 13, 2017
JH Honor Choir Auditions (Various Locations)	January 21, 2017
JH Honor Choir Auditions (Various Locations)	January 28, 2017
Diva Day	February 4, 2017
Young Men's Harmony Festival	February 11, 2017
California All-State Vocal Jazz Ensemble	February 15-18, 2017
Vocal Jazz & Contemporary A Cappella Festival	March 10, 2017
Vocal Solo Competition Final Round	March 18, 2017
JH Honor Choir Concert	April 29, 2016