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It has been an honor and pleasure to serve as your SCVA President for the past two years. As I write my last newsletter article as your President, I can't help but reflect on the events and accomplishments of our SCVA board in the past two years. I have been genuinely energized and inspired not only by the hard work of our committed board members but also the positive energy of the SCVA members I've met at events and concerts. I am so proud to be part of this Southern California choral community that believes music changes lives and understands the important part we as choral music educators play in the positive impact on our students. And what a mighty community we are! We have had a 20% increase in SCVA membership since this time last year. Thank you to our innovative Membership Chair, Bethany Encina who has, along with our webmaster Mark Freedkin, up-dated the registration procedures as well as reminded our members of the value of renewing year after year.

Speaking of our webmaster – one of our huge gains these last two years has been a beautifully redesigned website. Huge thank yous to Mark Freedkin, our dynamic webmaster and Christian Campos, our designer. We hope you have enjoyed the new look and functionality.

Did you get a chance to stop by the SCVA exhibition booth at the CMEA state conference? Or perhaps the reception for a bit of wine and cheese? Or did you see us at the Western Division ACDA conference in Pasadena? It's YOUR SCVA on the move. Just as we encourage choral conductors to get out and go to conferences, festivals and professional development, your SCVA board answered the call to get out there and be a part of our larger state choral community. Staying relevant in an era of organizations competing for your time and resources is a priority for your SCVA board.

As the weather in So Cal heats up I'm looking forward to our SUMMER CHATS! A brain child of President Elect Rachelle Randeem and one of our ground breaking events. We sincerely hope you will be able to attend this summer and take full advantage of this fun way to connect with fellow choral directors.

But what do our members count on us for the most? Incredible, life changing events for students and directors! So, in no particular order, a huge shout out to Rodger Guerrero for putting together an informative and enjoyable Fall In-Service; Crystal Stone and Matt Netto for the well organized and inspiring Sr. High Honor Choir; Marisa Rawlins-Bradfield for the Solo Vocal and Small Ensemble Competition; Christine Tavares-Mocha for the Vocal Jazz/A Cappella Festival; Marcelo Martinez for the Jr. High Honor Choir; Patty Breitag for the ever popular Show Choir Competition and of course our most attended event - Spring Choral Festivals presented by Jennifer Stanley, Nancy Ludwig and Melva Morrison. Also, heartfelt appreciation to our diligent Secretary, Molly Peters, Newsletter Editor, Karen Bluel and Treasurer, Carolyn Kelley. Thank you all for a wonderful two years of excellence and innovation.

Thank you, our SCVA membership, for the opportunity to lead this great organization. I look forward to seeing you at many future SCVA events and hearing your choirs making beautiful music.

2018 CONTEMPORARY A CAPPELLA AND VOCAL JAZZ FESTIVAL A COMPLETE SUCCESS!

The *Southern California Vocal Jazz & A Cappella Festival* was an enormous success this year! A big thank you to our adjudicators Jamie Shew of Fullerton College and VJ Rosales from *The Filharmonic*! We had 12 schools represented and 15 groups perform. Our headline artists, *The Filharmonic* Vocal Band was amazing! What an exceptional performance filled with a superb audience of singers and music appreciators!

Thank you to all the schools who attended!

Los Angeles University High School
Royal High School
Santa Susana High School
Bellflower High School
Valencia High School
McAuliffe Middle School
Excelsior Charter High School
Saugus High School
Canyon High School
Simi Valley High School
Ramon C. Cortines High School
Rio Norte Jr. High School



See you next year!

For more information on the 2018 SCVA Vocal Jazz A Cappella Festival, email Christine Tavares-Mocha, your SCVA Vocal Jazz Representative at cmocha@hartdistrict.org

Vocal Solo and Small Ensemble Competition Concert of Finalists

The 2017-2018 SCVA Charles Hirt-Howard Swan Memorial Vocal Solo and Small Ensemble Competition was held on Saturday, April 14 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, in Granada Hills, California. Once again, our adjudicators had the opportunity to hear over ninety vocalists during the preliminary rounds and accepted over forty participants to compete in the finals. These students are now eligible to compete at the CMEA State Vocal Competition. Wish them luck!

Please look for the 2018-2019 Vocal Solo & Small Ensemble announcements in our upcoming SCVA September newsletter. Get involved! Encourage your students to take part in a fantastic performance opportunity! Host a preliminary site and have your students attend a professional master class.

Congratulations to the Following Students

Junior High School Division

* Talia Isaacs, 1st Place*
Medea Creek Middle School

High School Classical Division

* Alison Mendrella, 1st Place*
Fullerton Union HS
Academy of the Arts

* Demmi Ross, 2nd Place*
Kate Feld Voice Studio

* Makeda Bullock-Floyd, 3rd Place*
Carol Tingle Voice Studio

High School Musical Theatre & Vocal Jazz Division

* Arianna Nelson, 1st Place*
Tammy Flanders Voice Studio

* Eliana Bane, 2nd Place*
Fullerton Union HS
Academy of the Arts

* Isabella Moncrief, 3rd Place*
Marisa Rawlins Voice Studio

Special Thanks to our Site Hosts

John Sargent, Newbury Park High School

Scott Hedgecock, Fullerton Union High
School Academy of the Arts

Marisa Rawlins-Bradfield, Providence High
School



Classical Division



The King's Crooners



Musical Theatre/Jazz
Division

Schools, Directors and Voice Studios represented in the Concert of Finalists

Anne Cherchian Voice Studio
The Buckley School, John Touchton
Carol Tingle Voice Studio
Cathedral High School, Fides May Le Roy
Desiree LaVertu Voice Studio
Elsinore High School, Annette Betts
Fullerton Union High School Academy of the Arts, Scott Hedgecock
Glen A. Wilson High School, Dejohn Brown
Kate Feld Voice Studio
La Reina Middle and High School, Heidi Vass
Lillian Sengpiehl Voice Studio
Los Robles Children's Choir, Dana Rouse
Marisa Rawlins Voice Studio
Martin Luther High School, Brian Holm
Medea Creek Middle School, Elana Levine
Newbury Park High School, John Sargent
North High School, Keiko Cl
Oaks Christian School, Edward Rouse
Orange County High School of the Arts, Sarah Drabant
Providence High School, Marisa Bradfield
Santa Monica High School, Jeffe Huls
Tammy Flanders Voice Studio
Top Billing Entertainment School of Music, Kristina Joy Ivy



CMEA State Choral Festival 2018

Wrap-Up

*Nancy Ludwig, CMEA State Choral Festival
Coordinator*



The 2018 CMEA State Choral Festival took place on Thursday, March 8. It was hosted by the Musco Center for the Arts at Chapman University, and largely sponsored by World Projects. Adjudicators Jenny Bent from Sonoma State University, John Tebay from Fullerton College, and Jonathan Talberg from CSU Long Beach were well received and did an outstanding job of continuing the expectation for true excellence at this festival. The thirteen participating choirs were extremely well prepared, and all represented their respective schools in the most positive way.

Participating choirs came from all over the state, representing middle school and high school choirs. Groups from different sized choral programs and all community types, from rural to metropolitan areas were represented. This festival was a true representation of choral excellence regardless of situation, and all choirs and their conductors are to be commended for their outstanding work and dedication to this goal.

CMEA would like to thank the Musco Center for the Arts and Chapman University, as well as the student volunteers from CSU Long Beach, the Fullerton Union High School Tri-M Student Chapter, and the Mountain View High School Choir Council.



Middle School Festival Participants

Bernardo Yorba Middle School Vocal Ensemble, Linda Nason, director
El Capitan Middle School Chamber Choir, Jacob Bailey, director
Glacier Point Middle School Glacier Point Choir, Jeff LaRose, director
Hughes Middle School Chorale, Steven Clausen, director
Manhattan Beach Middle School Madrigal Singers, Heather Gold-Pollak, director
Roosevelt Middle School Mixed Ensemble, Beverly Taylor, director

High School Festival Participants

Beckman High School, Bel Canto Choir, Nancy Stück, director
Beckman High School Madrigals, Nancy Stück, director
California High School Chamber Choir, Dan Hawkins, director
Mission Viejo High School Chamber Singers, Sarah Norris, director
Porterville High School Madrigals, Aaron Snell, director
Redwood High School Chamber Singers, Melchor P. Carrillo, director
Santiago High School Madrigals, Karen Garrett, director

Announcements for the next CMEA State Choral Festival date and location will be announced soon! As the school year comes to a close, please keep in mind that any group who earned a unanimous superior rating at the CMEA or SCVA festival they attended in spring of the current year is eligible to apply for the state festival in the following year. Copies of adjudication sheets as well as a recording must be submitted along with your application in order for your ensemble to be considered.

Junior High/Middle School/9th Grade Honor Choir

Marcelo Martínez Marroquín, VP-Junior High/9th Grade Honor Choir

Thank you to all of the wonderful students and to you, the teachers who helped make this year's Junior High/Middle School/9th Grade Honor Choir a success. We had 72 singers and 23 schools represented from all over Southern California. It was so much fun working with your students and watching them work with our fabulous guest conductor, Ms Jenepher Lapp.

After a sudden family emergency, Dr. Angel Vázquez-Ramos, who was originally scheduled to be the guest conductor, was not able to make it. Thankfully, he sent his good friend and a wonderful conductor, Jenepher Lapp. Not only did she conduct the honor choir but she also brought Dr. Vázquez-Ramos's California State University, Bakersfield, Chamber Singers. She conducted both groups with passion and beauty. She was so full of energy and kept the students engaged the whole day. The concert was so beautiful and students obviously had a great time singing and making music. The music was varied, fun, complicated, entertaining and moving.

Ms. Jenepher Lapp is a veteran choral music educator who has served as a leader in multiple areas of music education from directing a large high school choral program in Bakersfield, Ca. to serving as a mentor teacher, department leader, in-service provider, and facilitator of choral professional learning teams. Active in her professional organizations, ACDA, NAFME, KCMEA she has served as the chairperson for the California Central, Coastal Regions and All-State Honor Choirs and has sung at multiple ACDA conventions.

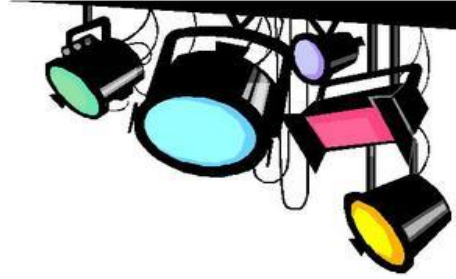
A big, special thank you to Adrian Rangel Sánchez and his choir students, who opened the concert at their beautiful auditorium at Portola High School. They were around all day to help us out and this event was a success in large part to their efforts and their hospitality.

Of course, I can't forget to also thank our wonderful accompanist for the second year, Mr. Christopher Luthi. He is a one of the best collaborative artists I know.



SHOW CHOIR SPECTACULAR 2018

Patty Breitag, Vice President of Show Choirs



The annual Show Choir Spectacular Competition was held on May 5, 2018 at the beautiful Plummer Auditorium in Fullerton, California. This was a full day of competitive show choir adjudicated by John Wilson, the founder of “Aztec Sing” (Show Choir Competition in 1976), Roger Duffer (Riverside Community College, retired Director of Choral Studies) and Michael Fenton (Esperanza High School Choral Music Teacher and Show Choir Director). Overall, the competition went as expected with 21 groups attending from various parts of the Southern California area. I am so grateful for the many student volunteers and adults who spent the whole day working to help make this event a success. Teamwork was definitely the “buzz word” of the day!

The following Show Choirs attended: Valley Middle School “Valley Girls”, Katella South Junior High “Next in Line” and Lexington Junior High “Velocity”, Western “Vocal Motion”, Katella “Queen Bees”, Vista del Lago “Vista Voices”, Katella “Knight Singers”, Riverside Poly “Riverside Poly Show Choir”, Lancaster “Lancaster Show Choir”, Stockdale “Showstoppers”, Martin Luther King “Show Choir”, Cypress “High Voltage”, Chaparral “Platinum FX”, Katella “Wild Cards”, Canyon Springs “Treble Choir”, Troy “Ladies First”, Redlands East Valley “Sweet Sensations”, Brea “Tiffanys”, Cypress “Thunderstorms”, Brea “Spellbound” and Brea “Masquerade”.

CONGRATULATIONS to following first place winners: in the Jr. High/Middle School Division - Lexington Middle School “Velocity”; in the Novice Mixed Division, Katella “Queen Bees”; in the Novice Women Division – Riverside Poly “Show Choir”; in the Intermediate Mixed Division – Martin Luther King “Show Choir”; in the Intermediate Women’s Division - Brea Olinda “Tiffany’s”; in the Advanced Women Division – Brea Olinda “Spellbound” and in the Advanced Mixed Division – Brea Olinda “Masquerade”. Musicianship Plaques were awarded to Lexington Middle School, Riverside Poly and Brea Olinda (2 Division Plaques). Showmanship Plaques were awarded to Lexington Middle School, Riverside Poly and Brea Olinda (2 Division Plaques).

A big SCVA thank you to all participating high schools and their fabulous show choirs.



Post in your classroom today! Post in your classroom today!

Senior High Honor Choir Fall 2018



What is honor choir?

270 outstanding choir members will be selected from approximately 600 auditionees to sing in one of three choirs: SSAA, TTBB or SATB. Singers will receive a packet of high-quality music and rehearsal tracks to learn individually then they come together for 3 full days of intensive rehearsals under the baton of our esteemed conductors. The experience culminates with a brilliant concert at the University of Redlands.



THE FINE PRINT

Who is eligible? Directors must be current paid members of SCVA. Singers must be a member in good standing with their high school choral program.

Timeline & Commitment – There will be 2 audition dates (Saturday, September 29 & Saturday, October 6) to choose from at various locations throughout Southern California. The audition fee is \$10 each. Should a student be accepted, the regional honor choir participation fee is \$90. *Travel expenses, housing and meals are not included.* ***BIG NOTE: Honor Choir weekend will be 3 continuous days in Redlands this year!** There will be no October rehearsal. Mark your calendars for **Thursday, November 15 through Saturday, November 17** with a performance on Saturday evening. Singers must be available for all 3 days.*

The Audition

Prepared solo from *24 Italian Songs and Arias* or *26 Italian Songs and Arias* (edited by Paton or Schirmer) or comparable foreign language art song or aria, 5-note tonal memory passages, a sight-reading exercise and scales/triads (major scale, major triad, minor triad, chromatic scale).

Tips to Prepare

- Review all Policies, Procedures and Guidelines at http://scvachoral.org/honor_choir_guidelines.php
- Watch sample audition video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8gqWJRPWR7A>
- Practice sight singing every day (www.sightreadingfactory.com is a great resource!)
- Learn prepared solo now

Conductors will be announced in August.

Send questions to Senior High Honor Choir Coordinator Matt Netto at mattthew_netto@jUSD.k12.ca.us

2018 – 2020 SCVA Executive Board Elections

Rodger Guerrero, SCVA Past President



It's May! It's May, the merry SCVA Executive Board election month of May! The time is now, and the list is here – vote only once, but vote today! Here is the list of candidates:

According to the SCVA By-Laws & Policies, previously-elected members automatically move from their former positions on the SCVA Board to the following offices:

- **President:** *Rachelle Randeem* (from the office of President-Elect)
- **Past President/Fall In-Service:** *Karen Garrett* (from the office of President)
- **Senior High School Honor Choir VP I:** *Matthew Netto* (from the office of Senior High School Honor Choir VP II)

While only one candidate is currently running for each of the following offices, SCVA voting members in good standing may choose another, qualified SCVA member as a write-in candidate:

- **Senior HS Honor Choir VP II:** *Michael Ushino* (San Juan Hills HS)
- **Junior HS/Middle School Honor Choir VP:** *Rhonda Bauer* (Miller/Gage Middle Schools)
- **Elementary Activities VP:** Open – No Candidate
- **Festivals VP I:** *Nancy Ludwig* (Mountain View HS)
- **Festivals VP II:** *Melva Morrison* (retired)
- **Vocal Solo & Ensemble Competition VP:** *Marissa Rawlins-Bradfield* (Providence HS)
- **Jazz Choir & A Cappella VP:** *Christine Tavares-Mocha* (Valencia HS)
- **Treasurer:** *Carolyn Kelley* (Bellflower HS)
- **Secretary:** *Kelly Self* (Redondo Union HS)
- **Newsletter Editor:** *Karen Bluel* (retired)
- **Membership VP:** *Bethany Encina* (Los Osos HS)
- **Web Communications:** *Mark Freedkin* (Masters of Harmony)
- **Barbershop Harmony Festivals (Youth Harmony):** *Antone Rodich* (West Torrance HS)

Two, qualified candidates are currently running for the following offices (choose one):

- **Festival Adjudication VP:**
 - *Dan Hawkins* (California HS)
 - *Kristen Walton* (Riverside Poly HS)
- **Show Choir VP:**
 - *Patricia Breitag* (retired)
 - *Sarah White* (Granada Hills HS)

The voting process has started – online – via the Membership Only tab. According to the SCVA By-Laws, all members have from May 1-31 in order to vote. Results will be announced on June 1 via an all-SCVA member announcement. 2018-2020 SCVA Executive Board officers *shall take office on or before* (the) August 1 following their election. **Let your SCVA voice be heard! Vote today!**

Remembering Ray Woods

Greg Ellis, Past President

One of the amazing things about SCVA has always been the opportunity to connect with people who love and nurture the same art that you do; the ability to get help and ask advice from people with a little more experience, or perhaps, people with a different take on how to get things done. On January 27th, I lost one of those treasured professional friends/colleagues that I met through SCVA, Raymond Woods.



I wasn't out of college yet, but members of the board reached out, seeking a student representative. I said "yes". Ray was part of that group, serving on the Executive Board from 1974-1979 and then again from 1990-1992, leading the Solo/Ensemble Festivals and then the High School Festivals, as well as always being willing to help with and accompany the High School Honor Choir. I was a very young high school teacher hoping to also serve in a church, and Ray would always accept a phone call to answer questions or help me think about the process, as well as give advice on SCVA matters. He was a man of action, with great vision for what was needed to make things happen in the choral world.

Ray was born November 4, 1947 in San Diego, the middle child of five. He showed early promise at the keyboard and fell in love with choral music during high school. He was offered a full scholarship to Whittier College, where he attended and continued his study of piano and organ. Ray started teaching at Garey High School and Fremont JHS in 1970. In 1979, he joined the staff of Garden Grove United Methodist Church, where he served until his death. He started the Pomona Community Chorus, then acted as director of the Westminster Chorale, before being recruited to direct the South Coast Singers in Orange County.

In 1983, Ray was hired to teach a couple of classes at Marco Forster JHS and one at Dana Hills HS. He continued to expand that program until there were more classes than could be fit into the school day. This led to the eventual creation of the South Orange County School of the Arts (SOCSA) at Dana Hills HS. Ray used his skills to create a marketing brochure, and thus a new academy was born. (Very progressive for the time!) He wrote, marketed, and created new integrated arts courses that would provide students with academic and real-life project-based learning. The program began in 1996, and Ray was named director of the program in 2001. Under his leadership, the program grew and flourished. In the Vocal Music program alone, Ray was responsible for A Cappella Choir, Concert choir, Madrigals, Commercial Music, Drama/Musical Comedy, Vocal Production, and AP Music Theory. Sounds like two jobs, doesn't it? Ray worked hard, devoted to his craft and bringing others along with him.

Ray's wife, Amy, said that he truly made the most out of each day he was given. She shared a couple quotes from Ray. "The greatest gift a teacher can give a student is the desire to learn. We must inspire in young minds a true and lasting interest in continuing the lifelong learning process." To his students, as his health forced him to stop teaching "Carry the banner for music!"

To Ray, I say "thank you for your tireless work to encourage young and old to pursue their musical dreams and thus, make life more meaningful. Thank you for building a loving community through the art of Choral Music. You have touched many lives, and they will be forever grateful to you. You will be missed. Well done, good and faithful servant!"



Thank you, Friends!!!



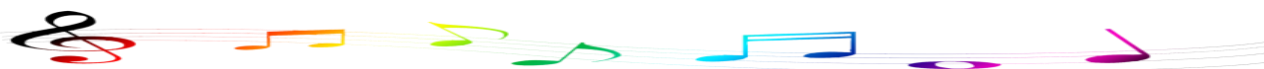
The FESTIVAL TEAM from SCVA would like to express our thanks to members and friends who made this year's festival season so successful:

Hosts – Adjudicators; Directors – Accompanists; Parents – Students;

Webmaster – Mark Freedkin; Action Trophies – Doug Guimond

We are sincerely grateful for the support we receive that enables us to continue with a phenomenal number of festivals for our members. We have initiated new elements - SIGHT READING festivals with choice of difficulty levels, wait listing for full festivals, PayPal option, online score reporting and tabulation, online evaluation process – thanks to your input and your patience as we adjust, make improvements, and continue to provide you with opportunities to improve the “Choral Art”.

Your Festival Team – Jennifer, Nancy, Melva



SCVA Member, 24 Years

Lisa Friedrichs

MEMBER

SPOTLIGHT

Lisa Friedrichs has taught for 24 years at Rancho Bernardo High School, and previously taught two years at Rancho Buena Vista High School. She has been an integral part of initiating the Poway Unified District High School Masterworks Concert Series, which is in its third year. Her students recently auditioned for and won the Choral Competition hosted by 101.5 KGB-FM, which allowed them to perform on stage with the band Foreigner.

What do you feel are your strengths as a music educator?

My strengths as a music educator have been my choral sound/tone quality, and my ability to pick appropriate, challenging literature for my students.

How do you go about setting goals for your program or yourself as an educator?

I first choose the literature and then my goals come from literature I have chosen. I always try to choose literature that will move my students but that also will challenge me as a teacher and a choral conductor.

Give a shout out to a Choral Colleague who inspires you!

The choral colleague that continually inspires me is Don Brinegar. His dedication to choral artistry is unparalleled. I feel blessed to have been a student and a colleague of Don. Thank you Don!



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

SCVA Executive Board Elections Deadline (Online)	May 31, 2018
HS Honor Choir Online Registration Opens	August 20, 2018
HS Honor Choir Online Registration Closes	September 14, 2018
HS Honor Choir Audition Times/Locations Posted Online	September 18, 2018
HS Honor Choir Audition Date - Various Sites	September 29, 2018
HS Honor Choir Audition Date - Various Sites	October 6, 2018
HS Honor Choir Weekend @ University of Redlands	November 15-17, 2018