



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA VOCAL ASSOCIATION
SEPTEMBER, 2022

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Tammi Alderman

It's been a summer of processing what just happened, vacations that had been postponed for months (or years), and hopes that this year will start (and maybe end) differently than last year.

Some of us spent time at conferences, workshops, classes and camps and are excited to put all of those experiences into practice in our classrooms. Some of us went as far away as we could from the classroom to find a state of mental well-being, spend time with family and just relax or renew. We came to the first day of school bright-eyed. We adjusted our summer sleep schedule to meet new students and colleagues. We planned, decorated, sorted music, photocopied handbooks and then hoped that our numbers would meet the needs of our administrators. Some of us discovered that our strongest tenors (siblings, of course) moved across the country, and that our auditioned ensembles are close to the same skill level as our come-one-come-all choirs. To top it off, many of us have been asked to teach a brand new class this year (some with only one week notice).

It is overwhelming. But it is worth it! The power of music can be as overwhelming as the stressors. Every human deserves to experience the power music can have. It has the power to buoy the spirit that we didn't know was sinking. So many things outside of your room are out of your control. What happens at home, work or in other classes are not things that you can predict or dictate. But giving every person in your classroom a place to learn without judgement or fear can be healing and joyous.

As I look at the next two years as your SCVA President, I am excited for the things to come. Our impressively packed SCVA Event schedule is back in full swing. Kicking it all off, our [Fall In-Service](#) will feature headliner, Roger Emerson. We'd love to have you join us in Fullerton on October 21st for a great day of learning and laughter. [High School Honor Choir Auditions](#) and [Contemporary A Cappella/Vocal Jazz Honor Choir Auditions](#) will take place at the end of this month. If you've never sent a student, now is the time to give them the gift of meeting people from other communities who share their love and passion for group singing. Additionally, you can [Host a Festival](#) at your school or home venue (applications for 2023 festival hosts are now open).

I would like to give a heartfelt shout-out to the individuals who served on the SCVA board and did incredible work through the pandemic (and before). The number of hours spent volunteering time, when they were already too busy should not go without ovation. THANK YOU: **Rachelle Randeem** (Past-President), **Emilio Sandoval** (Social Media), **Nancy Ludwig** (Festivals Team), **Dan Hawkins** (Festivals Team), **Sarah Anders** (Show Choir) and **Antone Rodich** (Close Harmony Festival).

Finally, it is my pleasure to extend a warm welcome to the new SCVA Board Members (2022-2024)! **Bekka Knauer** (Secretary), **Ryan Yoder** (Social Media), **Dan Martensen** (Festivals Team), **Brandon Harris** (Show Choir), **Sara Logsdon** (Contemporary A Cappella/Vocal Jazz Honor Choir), **Marco Rodriguez** (Close Harmony Festival).

Thank you for the beauty you are about to create in your classroom this year. You are appreciated!

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[Marco Rodriguez](#)
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Membership



High School Honor Choir

Auditions Sept 24 & Oct 1

Don't miss your opportunity to sing outstanding music with our phenomenal line-up of guest conductors.

Honor Choir
Weekend
Nov. 17-19



Dr. Nicholle Andrews

SATB Honor Choir



Dr. Iris Levine

SSAA Honor Choir



Dr. Alicia Walker

TTBB Honor Choir

Audition Registration
Now Open

scvachoral.org

Audition Includes

- Prepared Italian, French, German or Spanish Art Song
- Major Scale, Major Triad, Minor Triad, Chromatic Scale
- Tonal Memory
- Sight Reading

See complete audition guidelines at scvachoral.org.

Coordinators

Bethany Encina, VP1
Kristen Walton, VP2

scvahonorchoir@gmail.com

Prepare Your Students for High School Honor Choir Auditions

Bethany Encina, High School Honor Choir VP 1

Honor Choir is approaching, and we can't wait for your students to meet and be inspired by our phenomenal slate of conductors. You'll find detailed audition requirements at scvachoral.org, and a video demonstrating a sample audition at bit.ly/scvaaudition. Below are some additional suggestions for supporting your students as they prepare for success.

Prepared Solo

Any Italian, French, German or Spanish art song may be sung in any key. Consider choosing a short, simple piece in a neutral range (or in high and low keys) which your students can learn in unison during the first few weeks of school. Teaching the notes and rhythms in class will allow those students who choose to audition to spend their time at home polishing their interpretation as a soloist. The Boytim **First Book of Solos Complete** for Soprano, Mezzo, Tenor and Baritone/Bass voices are fantastic resources if you are looking for simple pieces outside of the "24 Italian Art Song" selection. Remember to have your students bring two copies of their music for the adjudicators! **Youtube** is a trove of free accompaniment recordings if your students don't have access to a live pianist. Remember to have your students download their audio recordings, to avoid potential wifi trouble.

Scales/Triads

Consider making this portion of the audition part of your daily warmup so that students find it familiar and habitual: Major Scale, Major Triad, Minor Triad and Chromatic Scale. Remember that the minor triad must begin on the same pitch as the major triad (though any syllable may be used)! In the audition, Tenor and Soprano scales/triads will begin on E flat, while Alto and Bass will begin on C.

Tonal Memory & Sight Reading

Don't forget to use the Sample Tonal Memory and Sightreading Examples provided at scvachoral.org! Students find it reassuring to become familiar with the format of the sightreading page, and they'll be more confident knowing the general level of difficulty of both the tonal memory and sight reading portions.

Reminders for your Students

- The adjudicators are choir directors just like yours. They are rooting for your success!
- It can be very helpful to practice your audition in front of one or two people, or in front of a camera to hone your performance.
- Remember to arrive early to warm up and become familiar with the hosting site. The more unknowns you can eliminate before your audition, the less stressed you will be.

Help Needed!

We need YOU to adjudicate! We will need approximately 50 members to adjudicate auditions this year for our event to be a success. Please consider applying to adjudicate at scvachoral.org. By doing so, you'll earn \$100 for your time while facilitating a positive audition experience for students in our region.

Our event will only be successful with your help. Teachers who have 2 or more students in Honor Choir are expected to volunteer during the event. You can volunteer for a position during the event weekend at bit.ly/scvahcvolunteer.



WE'RE BACK!!!

**Introducing
The 2022 SCVA Vocal Jazz Contemporary A Cappella
Honor Choir Director Jeremy Fox**

Audition Deadline: September 16th, 2022

Honor Choir Weekend: November 17th-18th, 2022

Live Performance: November 18th, 2022 at the University of
Redlands

Grammy-nominated Dr. Jeremy Fox is a highly in-demand clinician, presenting clinics and serving as guest conductor of All-State choral and instrumental ensembles throughout the U.S. and Canada. He earned his B.M. degree in Piano/Jazz Studies from Western Michigan University, and his M.M. and D.M.A. in Jazz Composition from the University of Miami. Jeremy served for one year as a Visiting Professor of Jazz Voice at Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, but has since returned as a full-time instructor at The School for Music Vocations (www.SchoolForMusicVocations.com) or the SMV, one of the only 2-year vocational music programs in North America specializing in Jazz and Contemporary Music. This July, Jeremy ran his 20th Annual SMV Vocal Jazz Camp (www.VocalJazzCamp.com) in Creston, Iowa.

Since 2008, he has also coordinated in-person and online retreats to empower students and music educators called the Jazz Harmony Retreat (www.JazzHarmonyRetreat.com). Each spring, Jeremy directs the SMV Vocal Jazz Festival, an annual event which has drawn educators, ensembles, and students from around the world. In April 2023, Jeremy and his SMV colleagues will host the festival joined by Kerry Marsh, Rosana Eckert, Aubrey Johnson, and Matt Falker (www.VocalJazzFest.com). In April 2024, Jeremy will organize the second biennial SMV säje vocal fest in Creston, Iowa – based around the supergroup that includes Sara Gazarek, Amanda Taylor, Johnaye Kendrick and Erin Bentlage. Jeremy has received 11 awards from Downbeat magazine, for Best Written Song, Best Arrangement, and Studio Engineering. Jeremy's arrangements are published on his www.JeremyFox.net website, as well as with Alfred Music, Sheet Music Plus, Sound Music Publications and UNC Jazz Press. His arrangement of "All My Tomorrows" featuring Kate McGarry was nominated for "Best Arrangement-Instruments and Vocals" at the 57th Annual Grammy™ Awards.

Email saralogsdon12@gmail.com for more info or visit scva.org/vocal_jazz_honor_choir.php



Southern California Vocal Association

Fall In-Service

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



SPECIAL GUESTS

- Roger Emerson, Hal Leonard
- Lynn Kleiner, Music Rhapsody
- Juventino Aceves, CSU Fullerton
- Kaitlin Holt, Saugus High School



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...



Cost:

Early Registration: \$75

(deadline September 15, 2022)

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

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

Register at
www.scvachoral.org

Fullerton Free, 2801 N Brea Blvd,
Fullerton, CA 92835





It's Time to Register to Host Your SCVA Festival!

Kenneth Haro, VPI

Festival host registration is now available online from now until October 1st at <https://www.scvachoral.org/>

As the 2022-2023 season approaches, many of us are anxious to return to a full year of in-person singing at festivals and performances. We at SCVA are committed to help provide our students with ample performance opportunities to enrich the coming season through positive solo and choral experiences.

Advantages of hosting a festival include:

- * Selecting a festival date that works with your schedule!
- * Not having to worry about transportation!
- * 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!

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.

Register to Adjudicate A Festival!

Alan Garcia, Festival Adjudication

With Festival Season right around the corner, we are also looking for new adjudicators to add to our roster. SCVA is seeking talented individuals to serve as sight-reading 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.

Applications should be submitted by November 30th, 2022.

The application process can be accessed via scvachoral.org. To apply, select Festivals > Concert Festivals > Adjudication Information from the menu to find the Application Site.

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.

Social Media Update

Ryan Yoder



I am so grateful for the opportunity to celebrate all the wonderful happenings involving the Southern California Vocal Association (SCVA) through our social media presence. Looking towards the future, we are excited to not only keep you informed about what our organization has to offer, but also celebrate our best resource ...our members! As you participate with SCVA throughout this year, please make sure to tag us @scvachoral or share any highlights from our various festivals and events. If you haven't done so already, take a moment to follow us on Instagram and Facebook. We look forward to another incredible school year TOGETHER!



@scvachoral



Membership Spotlight

Know Your Choral Community

Erika Jackson, Membership

Steven York is in his 5th year of teaching, and his 2nd year at Redlands East Valley High School where he teaches 3 choral ensembles including Concert Choir, Bel Canto Treble Choir, and the East Valley Singers; 2 piano classes; and serves as the Vocal Music Director for the school's spring musical. Outside of teaching, Steven is the Music Director at Fullerton First United Methodist Church and Choir Director of the Aldersgate Chorale. Hailing from Michigan, Steven moved to Southern California where he spent a six-year engagement with the Young Americans. During this engagement, he was able to tour the US, Europe, and Japan with their International Music Outreach Program - teaching music and dance to children of all ages. It was during this time spent with the organization that he realized he wanted to spend the rest of his life impacting the lives of others through music. Besides music, Steven's other loves include: traveling, cooking, spending time with his adorable dog, Lilah, collecting Pokemon cards, and baking! He hopes to, one day, open a bakery called "Hildegard's" where he can combine his love of music and baking!



Southern California Vocal Association

Moreno Valley High School – 23300 Cottonwood Ave, Moreno Valley CA 92553

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



IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

HS Honor Choir Audition Application and Payment Deadline	Sep 16
Vocal Jazz Contemporary A Cappella Honor Choir Audition Deadline	Sep 16
HS Honor Choir Audition Confirmations on SCVA Website	Sep 19
HS Honor Choir Regional Auditions	Sep 24 & Oct 1
Festival Host Registration Deadline	Now - Oct 1
SCVA Fall In-Service Early Registration	Now – Sep 15
SCVA Fall In-Service Late Registration	Sep 16 – Oct 21
Registration for Festivals Opens	Oct 17
HS Honor Choir Audition Results Posted on SCVA Website	Oct 15
HS Honor Choir Weekend	Nov 17-19
Vocal Jazz Contemporary A Cappella Honor Choir Performance	Nov 18
Applications for New Adjudicators Deadline	Nov 30

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