



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA VOCAL ASSOCIATION
DECEMBER, 2022

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Tammi Alderman

It has been quite the fall semester for many of us. This year marked the beginning of the long march back to what we hope new be the next “new normal.” I am daily reminded of the paraphrase from the Dao De Jing (ascribed to Lao Tzu) “The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.”

While most of us have returned to our regular performance venues, and many are planning tours, we are still working through the trauma and learning loss created by nearly three years of turmoil. Our administrators continue to stress lessons that promote social-emotional learning and the need for grace and understanding as our students continue to regain their place in a physical (versus virtual) environment.

Through this, I find myself using pieces that I haven't looked at in ages. Pieces that are joyous, uplifting and that support the pedagogy that I use in my classroom every day. Sometimes, you find the piece that is magic for your students and to your teaching soul. I pride myself on continually discovering new-to-me choral literature. But for this year, I'm also finding comfort in pieces that will have new life with students who have never heard these pieces before. There are purposefully no titles listed in this article because those pieces are so personal to every teacher (I am happy to share them with you individually if you email me).

So as we carol our way through the month of December and wonder how there are still 9 days until school is out, think about what your soul-feeding, tomato-soup-and-grilled-cheese-sandwich pieces are for next semester.

THANK YOU AND CONGRATULATIONS

Drew Lewis, SCVA Past-President put on a fantastic Fall In-Service at the end of October in Fullerton. If you were in attendance, you know how powerful it was to have a group of choral conductors in a room singing, learning and sharing ideas. Roger Emerson was and inspiration and gave us a good reminder to embrace the journey (our own and that of our students).

Bethany Encina and Kristen Walton (VPs of High School Honor Choir) and Sara Logsdon (VP of Vocal Jazz/Contemporary A Cappella Honor Choir) are some of the most calm, collected and gracious people I have ever seen work in the storm that is High School Honor Choir Weekend! Once again the weekend gave so many of our choral students an experience that they will remember for a lifetime. All four of the conductors took the students on a journey with their programming that resulted in beautiful sounds, smiles, rambunctious applause. Remember to send your positive comments and thanks to these people who volunteered so much of their fall semester to create this amazing event—Let them know that they are appreciated and the time they spent made a difference to our humans!

Tammi Alderman
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VP I - Festivals

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VP II - Festivals

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A Cappella Honor Choir

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Marco Rodriguez
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Membership



SCVA

2022 HIGH SCHOOL HONOR CHOIRS

Wrap-up

THANK YOU SCVA COMMUNITY!

November 19th closed a wonderful Honor Choir weekend with a concert of fine performances from our 2022 SCVA High School Honor Choir participants.

Many Thanks!

Thank you to our fantastic conductors: Dr. Iris Levine, Dr. Nicholle Andrews and Dr. Alicia Walker for sharing your wisdom and inspiration with our students. To our most excellent pianists: Christopher Luthi, Dr. Joseph Schubert and Dr. Sara Shakliyan for your exemplary musicianship, and to our amazing choir hosts, Bekka Knauer, Miranda Ford and Jennifer Phillips for your patience, persistence and tirelessness! Our sincere gratitude to the University of Redlands and Dr. Joe Modica for your wonderful hospitality.

Thank you also to the army of volunteer SCVA members and parent volunteers who kept our weekend running seamlessly! You made the honor choir weekend superb. Finally, thank you directors for your work encouraging your students to audition and prepare for Honor Choir this year. Your work made a difference.



Bethany Encina,
HS Honor Choir VP I

scvahonorchoir@gmail.com

Kristen Walton
HS Honor Choir VP II



TTBB Honor Choir
Dr. Alicia Walker, conductor
Christopher Luthi, pianist



SATB Honor Choir
Dr. Nicholle Andrews, conductor
Dr. Joseph Schubert, pianist



SSAA Honor Choir
Dr. Iris Levine, conductor
Dr. Sara Shakliyan, pianist

Concert Festival Registration Had Begun!

Kenneth Haro, VPI Festivals

Registration for Spring SCVA Concert Festivals has officially opened! Please see the list below for selections to take your students this year to participate in one of these amazing festivals.

A special thank you to all the hosting school sites and directors! Without your help, we would be unable to put on community building choral events for our young singers.

Registration deadline is March 1, 2023. Make sure to reserve your spot soon! Register online at <http://www.scvachoral.org/festivals.php>

High School Festivals

Day	Date	Time	Site	City	Level	Type	Host
Thursday	3/2	1:00 PM	Bloomington HS	Bloomington	Open	Open	Ryan Duckworth
Saturday	3/4	12:00 PM	San Marcos HS	Santa Barbara	Class I	Open	Eleni Pantages
Friday	3/10	10:00 AM	Fontana HS	Fontana	Open	Open	Jennifer Hartman
Friday	3/10	10:30 AM	Newport Harbor HS	Newport Beach	Open	Open	Jeffrey Ledon
Monday	3/13	7:00 PM	Thousand Oaks HS	Thousand Oaks	Open	Open	Janna Santangelo
Tuesday	3/14	9:30 AM	Bonita HS	La Verne	Open	Women/Men	Ryan Yoder
Wednesday	3/15	9:30 AM	Bonita HS	La Verne	Open	Mixed	Ryan Yoder
Wednesday	3/15	9:30 AM	Mission Viejo HS	Mission Viejo	Open	Open	Sarah Norris
Wednesday	3/15	1:00 PM	Mission Viejo HS	Mission Viejo	Class I	Mixed	Sarah Norris
Thursday	3/16	9:00 AM	Vista Del Lago HS	Moreno Valley	Open	Open	Jennifer Meregini
Thursday	3/16	6:00 PM	Freeman Eakin Auditorium	Santa Paula	Open	Open	Jerry Cruz
Friday	3/17	12:00 PM	Santa Susana HS	Simi Valley	Open	Open	Bevin Abbe
Monday	3/20	7:00 PM	California Lutheran University	Westlake Village	Open	Open	Amy Rolniak
Tuesday	3/21	10:00 AM	Performing Arts Center of Baldwin Park	Baldwin Park	Open	Open	Suzanne Brookey
Tuesday	3/21	3:00 PM	Performing Arts Center of Baldwin Park	Baldwin Park	Class I	Chamber	Suzanne Brookey
Friday	3/24	11:00 AM	Biola University	La Mirada	Open	Open	John Tebay
Friday	3/24	3:00 PM	Biola University *Sight-Reading*	La Mirada	Open	Mixed	John Tebay
Friday	3/24	7:30 PM	Biola University *Sight-Reading*	La Mirada	Open	Mixed	John Tebay
Wednesday	3/29	10:00 AM	Corona Del Mar HS *Sight-Reading*	Newport Beach	Class I	Open	Andrew Ball
Thursday	3/30	10:00 AM	Ramon C. Cortines HS *Sight-Reading* LAUSD ONLY	Los Angeles	Open	Clinic	Drew Lewis
Thursday	3/30	5:00 PM	Walnut HS	Walnut	Open	Open	Elizabeth Lopez
Monday	4/3	7:00 PM	Eastside HS	Lancaster	Open	Open	Lance Azusada
Thursday	4/6	10:00 AM	Moreno Valley HS	Moreno Valley	Open	Mixed	Erika Jackson
Wednesday	4/12	1:00 PM	Los Osos HS *Sight-Reading*	Rancho Cucamonga	Open	Open	Bethany Encina
Wednesday	4/12	5:00 PM	Los Osos HS	Rancho Cucamonga	Open	Open	Bethany Encina
Thursday	4/13	9:00 AM	Norco HS *Sight-Reading*	Norco	Open	Open	Rachelle Randeem
Thursday	4/13	12:30 PM	Norco HS *Sight-Reading*	Norco	Class I	Open	Rachelle Randeem
Friday	4/14	9:00 AM	Vista Murrieta HS	Murrieta	Class I	Mixed	Zachary Krug
Thursday	4/27	9:30 AM	Gabrielino HS	San Gabriel	Class III	Open	David Pitts
Thursday	4/27	2:00 PM	Gabrielino HS	San Gabriel	Class I	Mixed	David Pitts

Junior High/Middle School Festivals

Day	Date	Time	Site	City	Level	Type	Host
Friday	3/17	9:00 AM	Santa Susana HS	Simi Valley	Open	Open	Bevin Abbe
Wednesday	3/22	10:30 AM	Performing Arts Center of Baldwin Park	Baldwin Park	Open	Open	Suzanne Brookey
Thursday	3/23	10:30 AM	Las Flores Middle School	Las Flores	Open	Open	Elena Mariano
Wednesday	3/29	1:00 PM	Corona Del Mar HS	Newport Beach	Open	Open	Andrew Ball
Thursday	4/6	9:00 AM	Vista Del Lago HS	Moreno Valley	Open	Open	Jennifer Meregini
Friday	4/14	9:00 AM	Norco Intermediate School	Norco	Open	Open	Kyle Betts
Friday	4/14	1:00 PM	Norco Intermediate School	Norco	Open	Clinic	Kyle Betts
Tuesday	4/18	10:00 AM	Las Flores Middle School	Las Flores	Open	Open	Elena Mariano
Tuesday	5/9	10:00 AM	Vanguard University	Costa Mesa	Class III	Open	Ashley Riopka

What classification do I use when registering my choirs? Help!

SCVA CHORAL FESTIVAL CLASSIFICATIONS

By Alan Garcia | VP of Festival Adjudication

One of the most frequent questions I ask myself when I am both programming music and registering my choirs for festivals is thinking about their classification. This can be a difficult subject because of how vague the terms can be. Are my choirs “advanced” or “novice”? What constitutes an intermediate choir? Instead of relying on semantics, SCVA sought to clearly define these classifications. This was especially useful to ensure that adjudication is consistent across all of our festivals. It is also a way for us as directors to provide context for the adjudicator about our ensembles.

These classifications are organized by grade level, with middle school and high school classifications being defined slightly differently. It is important to note, however, that even with more clear definitions, gray area will always exist. Because of this, directors are encouraged to use their discretion when choosing their classification. Each classification listed below also lists permutations of choirs that can fall in each category.

MS Classification III: Middle School Novice Level Ensembles (grades 6-8)

- MS ensembles in which the majority of students began singing in the fall or have less than one year of experience
- MS ensembles performing beginning level MS repertoire
- MS ensemble that is the only group of its kind offered at the school

MS Classification II: Middle School Intermediate Ensembles (grades 6-8)

- MS ensembles in which the majority of students have 1-2 years of experience
- MS ensembles performing intermediate level MS repertoire
- Intermediate level MS ensembles from schools that offer a sequential program

MS Classification I: Middle School Advanced Level Ensembles (grades 6-8)

- MS ensembles in which the majority of students have 2-3 years of experience
- MS ensembles singing advanced level MS repertoire
- Advanced level MS ensembles from schools that offer a sequential program

HS Classification III: High School Novice Level Ensembles (grades 9-12)

- Novice level HS ensemble in which the majority of students have 1 semester - 2 years of experience - Including experience from middle school
- *Including, but not limited to:* Ensembles from small high schools
- HS ensembles performing beginning level HS repertoire
- Beginning level HS ensemble from schools that offer a sequential program
- HS ensemble that is the only group of its kind offered at the school

HS Classification II: High School Intermediate Level Ensembles (grades 9-12)

- Intermediate level HS ensemble in which the majority of students have 2-3 years of experience - Includes experience from middle school
- *Including, but not limited to:* Ensembles from small high schools
- HS ensembles performing intermediate level HS repertoire
- Intermediate level HS ensemble from schools that offer a sequential program

HS Classification I: High School Advanced Level Ensembles (grades 9-12)

- Advanced level HS ensembles in which the majority of students have 3+ years of experience - Includes experience from middle school
- HS ensembles performing advanced level HS repertoire
- Advanced level HS ensembles from schools that offer a sequential program



**Congratulations to the 2022 SCVA
Vocal Jazz Contemporary A Cappella Honor Choir
Singers!**

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

**Ariane Villanueva, Aarya Shah, Ashna Parekh,
Lauren Effertz, Abigail Walston, Isabel Pierson
Celine Joy Taguibao, Micah Banaag, Ethan Bowling,
Marcus Espinosa, Lucas Santos,
Nathan Egami, Nathaniel Casequin, Tyler Gladden,
Isaac Tiu, Tomi Lessis, Emma Henao, and Griffen Beebe**



**Featured High Schools & Directors:
Valencia High School, Christine Mocha
Saugus High School, Kaitlin Holt
Chaminade College Preparatory, Sara Logsdon
Los Osos High School, Bethany Encina
Woodbridge High School, Jim Blackett
Downey High School, Cory Olariu
Harvard Westlake, Zanaida Robles**

MIDDLE SCHOOL/9TH GRADE HONOR CHOIR

MARCELO MARTÍNEZ MARROQUÍN

AUDITIONS 1/21 AND 1/28

By the time you see this, registration should be open for the Middle School/9th Grade Honor Choir. There will be various locations throughout Southern California. Last year's event was a lot of fun and students enjoyed it. I know your students will enjoy working with Dr. Ángel Vázquez-Ramos, from CSU Bakersfield.

For the auditions the following will be required:

- ◆ Sing America (My Country, 'Tis of Thee), a cappella
- ◆ Sing a major scale on C
- ◆ Sing a major & minor triad
- ◆ Sing an octave
- ◆ Sing five, five note tonal memory exercises
- ◆ Read a 4-measure rhythmic sight-reading example. Will include at least one dotted quarter note, eight note figure.
- ◆ Read a 4-measure melodic sight-reading example. It will be completely diatonic. Mostly step wise motion and rhythmically simple.



CONCERT MAY 6, 6:00PM PORTOLA HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

Tracks will be provided to help students learn their music. Directors are also expected to guide students in learning their music. Students are expected to attend the rehearsal on March 25 at Mark Keppel High School in Alhambra. We will need your help to lead this rehearsal.

The final rehearsal and concert will be on May 6 at 6:00pm at Portola High School. The concert will be in their beautiful auditorium. Tickets will be \$10 and will be available online and at the door.



*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

Sunday, May 21st

Live Finals Round @ 2:00 pm
Northridge United Methodist Church
9650 Reseda Blvd, Northridge, CA 91324

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

ADJUDICATORS

PROFESSIONAL
PERFORMING
ARTISTS

BARAKA MAY
&
TODD STRANGE



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

Close Harmony Festival SATB Edition

Saturday, February 11th 2023 9:00am - 3:30pm | 4:00pm Showcase

SCVA and Barbershop Harmony Society are co-hosting the 2023 SCVA Close Harmony Festival on **Saturday, February 11th** at Jordan High School. This festival will encompass students from middle school and high school, learning songs in the barbershop style, singing a-cappella music and culminating with a showcase.

Registration is open for any middle school and high school barbershop quartet (SATB, SSAA, TTBB) that would like to be a part of the showcase performance. You can bring as many students as you desire to participate in the rehearsals (SATB).

Choral Educators Registration Form ([link](#)) - Please complete this form by **December 16, 2022 at 11:59pm PT**. You can submit the form partially complete in advance of submitting your payment. The form can be edited before January 11th with any necessary changes. **\$35 per student**

Parental Consent Forms ([link](#)) - Please make sure your student's parents or guardians complete this form by **January 31, 2023 at 11:59pm PT**.

Tentative schedule for Saturday, February 11, 2023:	
9:00 - 10:00	Arrival & Registration (Name tags & T-shirts provided) Bring your music!
10:00 - 10:30	Welcome & Introductions
10:30 - 11:00	Warm ups and demonstration of the barbershop style
11:00 - 12:00	Rehearsal
12:00 - 12:45	Lunch (Provided)
12:45 - 1:45	Sectional rehearsals (as needed)
1:45 - 2:00	15-minute Break
2:00 - 3:00	Final Rehearsal
3:30 - 4:00	Performing Arts Doors Open
4:00pm	Showtime!

If you have any questions about this amazing event, feel free to email Marco Rodriguez (Vice President of Close Harmony) at marcoantoniorodriguezjr@gmail.com



SCVA PRESENTS

THE VOCAL JAZZ & CONTEMPORARY A CAPELLA FESTIVAL

Featuring performance from female
a capella group ANGELES

MARCH 9, 2023 | \$250 ENTRY
SAUGUS HS, SANTA CLARITA

VISIT

WWW.SCVACHORAL.ORG/JAZZ_FESTIVAL.PHP
FOR MORE INFO



SCVA

SHOW CHOIR FESTIVAL

WHEN:

APRIL 29TH, 2023

DIVISIONS:

MIDDLE SCHOOL:

**NOVICE, INTERMEDIATE,
ADVANCED**

WHERE:

ROWLAND HIGH SCHOOL
2000 S. OTTERBEIN AVE.
ROWLAND HEIGHTS, CA 91748

HIGH SCHOOL:

**NOVICE TREBLE/MIXED
INTERMEDIATE TREBLE/MIXED
ADVANCED TREBLE/MIXED**

REGISTRATION:

Registration will be open in January 2023

QUESTIONS? CONTACT BRANDON HARRIS
BHARRIS@ROWLANDSCHOOLS.ORG

WEBSITE UPDATE

Mark Freedkin, SCVA Webmaster



Hints for Choral Festival Registrations

In order to register for any SCVA Choral Festival, your SCVA Membership must be current. After you register for one or more choral festivals, you can see all your Festival Registrations by logging-in to the **Members-Only** area of the SCVA Website, and you can modify any of your Sightreading selections. Just be sure to use **one** consistent e-mail address for your SCVA membership and all of your Festival Registrations for that to work properly. You can also view and download an **Invoice** for any Choral Festival Registration Fees. You can download the **W-9 Form**, which shows our Tax-ID information.

Hints for Using PayPal and Saving Money

You can 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 want to save even more money, use **one** payment transaction with a quantity larger than one to pay for multiple items of the same kind, rather than adding multiple line-items to your shopping cart.

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

SCVA **MEMBER SPOTLIGHT!**

Daniel Alvarez
*Murrieta Mesa High School
Shivela Middle School*

- ▶ **Tell us about yourself:**
My name is Daniel Alvarez and I teach at Murrieta Mesa High School and Shivela Middle School. I am currently in my 5th year of teaching.
- ▶ **Describe the structure of your program: (size, schedule, ensemble voicings):**
Due to the pandemic and colleague retirements, I am currently teaching 2 string classes, a guitar class, and 4 choir classes. At the high school that is a beginning ensemble, an advanced treble ensemble, and an advanced mixed ensemble, and at the middle school a beginning ensemble.
- ▶ **What about your program are you most proud of:**
I am most proud of the community that is starting to take root, and the camaraderie between students and the inclusive nature of the space provided for them.
- ▶ **Favorite repertoire you have recently programmed:**
Some of my favorite pieces that I've programmed are Abreme la Puerta - arr. Cristian Grases, I Sing Because I'm Happy - arr. Rolfo Dilworth, Part-Songs No. 2: Serenade - Edward Elgar.
- ▶ **Tell us about your life outside the classroom:**
Outside of the classroom I cantor at St. Juliana Falconieri Church in Fullerton, I also sing with Pacific Chorale when time permits. When not singing, you can usually find me hanging out at home with my wife and two cats.

IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

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
Show Choir Spectacular	April 29
Vocal Solo Final Submission Deadline	May 5
Junior High Honor Choir Concert	May 6
Vocal Solo Live Finals Round	May 21

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