

Choral Edition

West Virginia American Choral Directors Association



Conductors are “doin’” it for themselves

I have noticed, over the last couple of years when that newsletter has been missing, the value of communication. I might put the newsletter aside when I get it, but when I need the information inside, having it is very important. This newsletter contains valuable information for you as you plan your program for next year. After the emphasis placed on the division convention last year, it is great to see the caliber of conductors and performers we have attracted for this year's state convention. Even so, that is far off and if you're like me, you are busy selecting music for the fall.

Budget and quality seem to be bigger considerations than ever before as I look ahead to this season's programming. The cost of music is skyrocketing, not to mention shipping and the printing of programs. Beyond the cost issues, we are inundated with music of questionable quality.



**President's Message by
Joe Janisch**

It's hard to program music that does not appeal to you or challenge your skills, but it seems that fluff and schlock pervade the flyers we are sent and the reading sessions we attend. If your singers are like mine music of poor quality loses its appeal after just a couple of rehearsals. Perhaps the answer to both problems lies in effective use of per-

sonal resources. Find a colleague you trust and respect and stretch your budget dollars by borrowing music. A quick call to a friend might provide the best piece you program.

In addition to contacting other choral directors, there are many professionals working in music stores that come in contact with huge amounts of new music. Find one you respect and ask them to keep an eye out for the “good stuff.” Fostering a relationship with a music store can provide insight into new music, and impact the music that is being published. The people in music stores can be our direct contact with the publishing houses. Not only can they keep an eye out for good music, but these professionals can inform the publishing houses of your tastes. Be more than a phone call to the people from whom you order music. It

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St. Olaf Choir coming to Charleston!

The world-renowned 75-voice St. Olaf Choir will be giving a concert in Charleston on Tuesday, January 30, 7:30 p.m. at the Clay Center for the Arts & Sciences, West Virginia. The concert is part of their 2007 two-week tour, which travels throughout many of the mid-Atlantic states.

Started in 1912 by Norwegian-born F. Melius Christiansen, the St. Olaf Choir has gained worldwide recognition for their excellence in choral music, especially the art of a *cappella* singing. The current director, Anton Armstrong who graduated from St. Olaf in 1978, assumed the leadership of the choir in 1990.

Ticket prices have not been announced. David Donathan, State R&S Chair for Worship in Music (ddonathan@ccumwv.org) is in charge of local arrangements. More information about St. Olaf and the choir tour can be found at www.stolaf.edu

Volume ?, Issue 1

September, 2006

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Jeffrey Poland

WV ACDA 2006 Junior High / Middle School Choir

School registration will again be \$35.00 for each participating organization. This form must be filled out completely (PRINT please), and, together with a check for registration, must be postmarked by September 8, 2006! Registration will not be accepted without payment enclosed. Late applications will again be subject to refusal. Thanks for helping with this!!

Please fill out the form completely even if you are a returning director!

Teachers must be a current member of ACDA – Please include copy of membership card with application.

MAIL TO: Ed Harkless ~ Chair
WV ACDA ALL STATE JR. HIGH/MS CHOIR
167 Iroquois Trail
Ona, WV 25545

MAKE \$35.00 CHECKS PAYABLE TO: WV ACDA attn: Jr. High/MS Choir

This is the school registration fee. You will be billed for the student participation fee(s) later AND each teacher must be a member of ACDA and register for the WV ACDA conference with the treasurer!

Organization/School Name _____

Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____

FAX # _____ PHONE # _____

E-mail (school) _____

Please list your choirs and the actual choir enrollment for each (male and female singers)

7 th grade choir		8 th grade choir		9 th grade choir	
Boys -	Girls -	Boys -	Girls -	Boys -	Girls -

Director Name _____

Director home address _____

_____ ZIP _____

Home e-mail _____ Phone _____ FAX # _____

Allotment *requested*: _____

No group will be allotted more than 8, if 8, they MUST be S¹ S² A¹ A² T¹ T² B¹ B² Please, read the actual allotment carefully when you receive it!!!! You will be expected to fill your allotment; if there is a change needed, it must be requested by Dec. 1!

Please list your request (be specific – ask for the voices that you are confident will be with you at the time of the event – Jan 22-24, 2007 at the Baptist Temple Church in Charleston.) Registration will start Thursday at approx. noon, auditions at approx. 1:00 pm. Information re: repertoire, student fees, shirts, and lodging will be sent with the allotment letter in mid-November.

Questions may be e-mailed to me or call: (Please)

Ed Harkless – Jr. High/ M S R/S Chair
Cabell Midland High School --304-743-7420 (office)
Cabell Midland High School –304-743-7577 (fax)

e-mail: edharkless@charter.net
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Cheryl Anderson returns to conduct the WV Chamber Choir

The 2007 All State Chamber Choir will rehearse and perform on January 25-27 in Charleston. The event will take place in conjunction with the WV ACDA Conference that is to be held at the Baptist Temple and Christ Church United Methodist.

The guest conductor will be Dr. Cheryl Anderson. Cheryl Anderson has served as the Director of Choral Activities at Cabrillo College in Aptos, California since 1990. She has had a distinguished career as a conductor, soloist, teacher, and clinician prior to her post at Cabrillo College. She has sung numerous times with Robert Shaw in Carnegie Hall.

The tentative program will include: *Annua Gaudia* by J. David Moore, *Cantate Domino* by Sweelinck, *Rytmus* by Hrusovsky, *Abendlied* by Rheinberger, *Put Viejni* by Imant Raminsch, *Chantez* by Massenet, *Ubi Caritas* by Lauridsen, and *Tres Cantos Nativos*.

Auditions for the Chamber Choir will be held at Fairmont State University on November 18. Students must prepare all music. They will sing excerpts chosen by the judges and will also have to sight-sing, clap rhythms, and perform tonal memory exercises.

An auditioning student must be an enrolled



member of their school choir AND the director must be a current ACDA member. All interested teachers should contact Clara Glover at Tyler Consolidated High School for more information. 1993 Silver Knight Drive, Sistersville, WV

26175/(304)758-9000 Ext. 117/
cnegie@access.k12.wv.us Complete information will be mailed as inquiries are made.

This story can fit 150-200 words.

Collegiate Honor Choir to appear at WVACDA Winter Conference

Sara Lynn Baird, the President of the ACDA Southern Division and Associate Director of Choral Activities at Louisiana State University, has been selected as the conductor of the 2007 Collegiate Honor Choir. The honor choir will sing as part of the WVACDA Winter Conference in January. Collegiate conductors who are members of ACDA are asked to send their best singers to participate. In order to keep a good balance the conductors are asked to send singers in quartets. At the 2005

conference we had our best choir yet. The program for the conference is: *Gloria in excelsis Deo* by Eleanor Daley (Alliance Music Publications, Inc. AMP 0565), *Psalm 100* (*Jauchzet dem Herrn*) by Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (CPDL ed. Rafael Ornes), *Crótalo* by Matthew Harris from *Two Lorca Songs* (Associated Music Publishers, Inc., dist. by Hal Leonard HL50483622), *Ode to Joy* by Z. Randall Stroepe (Alliance Music Publications, Inc. AMP0475) and *Alleluia* by Paul Basler

from "Songs of Faith" (Plymouth Music PJMS-116). If you are planning on sending singers to the honor choir please contact Joe Janisch at josephjanisch@ucwv.edu for more information.

President's Message

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is, after all, a symbiotic relationship; we depend on them and they depend on us.

What else can you do to access good music? Where can you find that one great piece of music that will meet your unique needs and complete your program? The members of WVACDA know one answer to those questions. We commission new music. We are adding to the list of great music available to us. We are responsible for several pieces of music. However, we sometimes think that commissioning music is something groups of people do when the truth is we can do it ourselves. When I was teaching in the public schools of Ohio I was able to commission a

piece using money from the music booster organization. My wife Julie, a church musician, has recently commissioned a piece for the 150th anniversary of her congregation using money donated in memory of a longtime choir member by his family. The possibilities are many for the choir director with a fertile imagination.

Lastly the answer to finding that great piece of music may be to look within. This past year we had a number of Jamaican students at the University of Charleston. I was lucky enough to have ten in my choir. Whenever I have an international student in my choir I try to program a piece of music from their country. While I found a couple of pieces from the Caribbean that I programmed, the best result came in the form of an arrangement we did as

a group using a Jamaican folksong one of the singers taught us. The piece, *Linstid Market*, had an improvisatory character that was new to many students, but the Jamaican students excelled at improvisation. The choir learned something about life in Jamaica beyond the beach, and the local newspaper did a story on the piece shortly before our spring concert. New music and free publicity, what more could I ask for?

As you have read, there are several answers to the issue of music availability and selection and I have just scratched the surface. I know that you have solutions and stories that you would like to share. Please don't be shy. You might have the answer a colleague is looking for.

*West Virginia American Choral
Directors Association*

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**Choral Edition
September, 2006
Do you know which volume this is?**



Meet Our New President Elect: Dr. Jeffery Poland



Jeffrey Poland

Jeffrey Poland is Professor of Music, Music Department Coordinator, and Director of Choral Activities at Fairmont State University. He joined the faculty in 1988 following

eleven years teaching high school choral music in Ohio, New York, and New Jersey. Dr. Poland conducts the Fairmont State Collegiate Singers and Chamber Choir, teaches studio voice and voice class, choral methods, beginning and advanced conducting.

In February 2000 Dr. Poland founded an auditioned community choir, The Marion Chorale. Since that time, the semi-

professional Chorale has performed numerous concerts in Marion County and has demonstrated a high level of musical accomplishment, both in repertoire and performance. Poland was also the Director of Music at the First United Methodist Church in Fairmont for ten years.

Poland is a Past President of the West Virginia Choral Directors Association, 1997-99. During the 1998-99 academic year, he was honored to serve the American Choral Directors Association as International Choirs Coordinator for the national convention in Chicago. He has hosted and adjudicated auditions for the WVACDA All-State High School Chamber Choir since the choir was founded. Poland has published articles in the

WVACDA *Choral Edition*, the national *Choral Journal*, and the *American Choral Review*. His professional memberships include the American Choral Directors Association, Music Educators National Conference, College Music Society, Omicron Delta Kappa, and Pi Kappa Lambda.

Poland received the Bachelor of Music Education degree from Baldwin-Wallace College, the Master of Music in choral conducting from The Ohio State University, and the Doctor of Musical Arts in choral conducting from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. Dr. Poland has done additional choral study with the late Robert Shaw.