



CHORAL EDITION

Winter 2010

The Official Publication of

WEST VIRGINIA ACDA



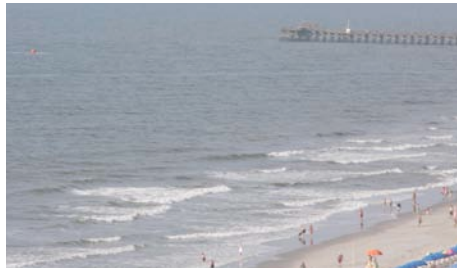
West Virginia ACDA
is a member of the
American
Choral
Directors
Association

2010 Conference Preview

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Mr. T. Edwin Harkless,
WVACDA President

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Was it only 5 months ago that I took this picture from the balcony of our suite? Right about now, it seems years ago. Even then, amidst the salt water, sand, seafood and breeze thoughts of the coming year were never far removed.

Today, though, we have a chance to have another retreat from our daily musical labor. Of course, I am referring to our upcoming Annual Conference! We

have kept several tried and true sessions and added or altered others. I invite you to join us January 28-30 to retreat to Charleston for a time of renewal. You may not find saltwater and sand (although seafood is available!) but you find: colleagues, interest sessions, time to network with friends and fellow-directors, the opportunity to watch our guest clinicians work their magic with our students AND participate in the **WVACDA Directors Chorus**. The directors' chorus will be under the direction of **Dr. Jefferson Johnson**, our headliner. Look for his bio in this newsletter. He comes highly recommended as a clinician and director.

Another special touch this year is the Friday evening event. We are taking the directors' chorus to the next level by incorporating it into a service: **A Celebration of Peace**. This event is being planned by our own **Donna Kinsey**, current R & S Chair for Worship. It will be an ecumenical approach utilizing readings, litanies and song. We will be using all conference attendees, students and teachers from the junior high/middle school to collegiate singers in this experience. I encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to again be a performer. (Remember how our students enjoyed watching/listening to us 2 years ago?) The service is planned to last only 30-40 minutes to encourage 100% participation from teachers and students. It will be open to the public. Watch for more details!

Another new event will be a Lunch Time Roundtable for the collegiate singers with our headliner and other directors. Teachers will be welcome to this as well. The idea behind this is to give the collegiate singers more of an opportunity to see what ACDA is about. They can ask questions about job searching, things to learn that college did not have in their curricula, and meet experienced teacher/directors that may become mentors for them. We are encouraging all of the collegiate singers to participate!



Clay Center for the Arts and Sciences of West Virginia

Teresa Dody, Glenville State, and Youth/Student Activities R & S Chair is facilitating. There is a flyer in this publication with more.

Descriptions of the sessions and a conference schedule are also in this publication.

Also very important for all attendees: please be sure to inform your hotel that you are part of the WVACDA Conference. Jeff Poland worked again this year and secured another CVB Incentive Fund to help offset the cost of the Clay Center. Now, we need to pack the hotels in Charleston and the Clay Center with WVACDA! (Parents, grandparents, etc., in other words **ANYONE** associated with the conference at all should make it clearly known to their hotel. Our obtaining future grants rests with our "heads in bed" count!)

(continued on page 2)

Photo courtesy of Katrina Harmon, Marketing and Communications Manager, Clay Center for the Arts and Sciences

We all need to be aware of the hard work that many of your colleagues are doing to help prepare your conference. Julie Watkins (Junior High/ Middle School Chair), Clara Glover (HS Chamber Chamber Choir Chair) and Joe Janisch (Collegiate Chair) have donated many hours to their respective duties in planning the repertoire, securing directors and keeping the myriad amounts of information sorted and organized. All while doing their own job in their schools! Those preparing sessions, arranging special events and helping with sectional rehearsals, accompanying and serving as “crossing guards” for the lunch migration, arranging for the printed program, and working behind the scenes for the CVB Grant, are all to be heartily thanked!

If you haven't visited the national [ACDA](#) website recently, I would encourage you to do so. There is a wide variety of helpful information and resources to be found and explored on *your* site. A new addition is the ACDA Radio where you can listen to outstanding choral works. There are links to other choral organizations: [Choral Net](#), [Musica \(an international data base for music\)](#). Did you know that ACDA is on [Facebook?](#) and [Youtube?](#) Many of you are familiar with the wonderful performances to be found there. (I learned in Oklahoma City that our past president, David Castleberry, is a Youtube junkie! Thanks Dr. D. now I am, too!) Links are there – check it out! One of my favorites is Tim Sharp playing banjo during the Officers Elect conference in Oklahoma City (July 2008). You can see me there, too – I'm one of the silhouette heads in the front – on the right – honest! You may be surprised at how much great choral works are on YouTube.

And in closing, I am asking each of you to submit information for this newsletter. You colleagues across the state are interested in learning from your experiences and expertise! We can continue to build a West Virginia strong in choral music if we are willing to share, support and encourage each other. In closing, I offer this quote from **Franz Schubert** as a reminder of the opportunity we have to touch the lives of our singers:



"Some people come into our lives, leave footprints on our hearts, and we are never the same."

You can substitute “teachers” or “students” for the word people. What a difference teachers and students have made in my life. I can only hope that I can in some way, do the same for those whose life journey intersects mine.

Enjoy the journey!

Ed



*Mr. Harkless is the Director of
Collegium musicum and
Madrigal Choir at
Cabell Midland High School*



2010 WV ACDA Conference January 28-30, 2010 Charleston, West Virginia



THURSDAY, JANUARY 28

*Conference and Honor Choir Registration – 12:00 pm
Baptist Temple (BT) Narthex*

Honor Choirs

Junior High/Middle School Honor Choir			Baptist Temple (BT) Sanctuary
12:00 PM Registration BT Narthex	1:00-4:00 Auditions		6:30-9:00 Rehearsal
All-State High School Chamber Choir			Christ Church Centrum
12:00 PM Registration BT Narthex	1:00-4:00 Rehearsal		6:30-9:00 Rehearsal

Interest Session

7:30-8:30 p.m. *"Ready, Set, Sing: Activating the Mind, Body, and Voice. Part I"* BT Chapel
Jefferson Johnson, Clinician

9:30 p.m. *WVACDA Executive Board Meeting* Embassy Suites

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29

9:00-7:20 Interest Sessions (see next page for details)

Honor Choirs

Junior High/Middle School Honor Choir			Baptist Temple (BT) Sanctuary
9:00-1:00 (Lunch 1:00-2:00 Christ Church)	2:00-4:00		5:30-7:20
All-State High School Chamber Choir			Christ Church Centrum
9:00-12:30 (Lunch 12:30-1:30 Christ Church)	1:30-4:00		5:30-7:20
Collegiate Honor Choir	9:00-12:00		BT Choir Room
	12:00-1:00 Lunch and Roundtable with Jefferson Johnson & other directors Teresa Dody, Chair of Youth and Student Activities, presiding		
	1:00-4:00 BT Choir Room		5:00-6:30 BT Chapel

7:30 p.m. Celebration of Peace BT Sanctuary
(featuring the Director's Chorus and all conference attendees)

Free Admission ~ Open to the public

Friday Interest Sessions



<i>Time</i>	<i>Topic/Presenter</i>	<i>Location</i>
9:00-9:50	<i>"Ready, Set, Sing: Activating the Mind, Body, and Voice. Part II"</i> Jefferson Johnson, Clinician	BT Chapel
10:00-10:50	<i>"Planning and Hosting a Choral Festival"</i> Leslie Riedel, clinician	BT Chapel
11:00 – 11:50	<i>"Reading Session – Tried and True Choral Music"</i>	BT Chapel
12:00-12:30	<i>Junior High/Middle School Teachers Meeting</i> Julie Watson – presiding	BT Chapel
2:00-2:50	<i>"Free – or nearly free – technology aids for singers/teachers"</i> Ed Harkless, clinician	BT Chapel
3:00-3:50	<i>Director's Chorus</i> Jefferson Johnson, Clinician	BT Chapel
5:45 -6:30	<i>General Membership Meeting</i>	BT Fellowship Hall
6:30 – 7:20	<i>Rehearsal with Director's Chorus prepping for 7:30 service.</i>	BT Chapel

Saturday, January 30

Honor Choirs	Clay Center
8:00-9:30	Junior High/Middle School Honor Choir
9:30-10:30	High School All-State Chamber Choir
10:30-11:30	Collegiate Honor Choir

1:00	Honor Choir Concert	Clay Center
	Welcome	Ed Harkless, WVACDA President
	All-State Junior High/ Middle School Honor Choir	Julie Watkins, presiding
	Collegiate Honor Choir	Joseph Janisch, presiding
	All-State High School Chamber Choir	Clara Glover, presiding

Interest Sessions

"Ready, Set, Sing: Activating the Mind, Body, and Voice. Part I & II"

Jefferson Johnson's recently released video "Ready...Set...Sing!" is published by Santa Barbara Music Publishing. It has been featured at music educators' conventions from Ohio to Hawaii. In addition, Johnson maintains an active schedule as an adjudicator and guest conductor for high-school and collegiate choirs throughout the United States. He joins us this year highly recommended by WVACDA members who have attended his workshop. Join Dr. Johnson as he shares his expertise in choral conducting.



"Planning and Hosting a Choral Festival"

Often seen as a daunting task, join Leslie Riedel as she shares the process and techniques involved in planning and implementing a successful choral festival. She has hosted multiple festivals since joining the music department at CMHS.

"Reading Session – Tried and True Choral Music"

One of the most requested sessions is the sharing and acquiring quality repertoire. Join us as we read literature that is "tried and true". Members of WVACDA have provided music for this session.

"Free – or nearly free – technology aids for singers/teachers"

Technology aids don't have to be complicated – or expensive! You will be introduced to freeware (software that is FREE and accessible from Internet sources) such as "Audacity" and "Lame" as well as iTunes. With a mic and your computer, you can create professional quality rehearsal tracks, accompaniments, etc. that can be put on CD, iPods, or your school's Edline or your ensemble's website. You will also be shown the Zoom H4 digital recorder.

"Director's Chorus and Celebration of Peace"

Our own R & S Chair for Worship, Donna Kinsey, has led the planning of this exciting Friday evening event that is for **all conference attendees**. This is the third Director's Chorus for WVACDA. We will become Dr. Johnson's choir for this workshop and then be part of the service Friday evening, joining with members of the Collegiate Honor Choir presenting several selections for the Friday evening service. (The service is designed to be 30-40 minutes) Students will be asked to participate and will benefit from watching/hearing their teachers/conductors as choristers.

"Lunch/Roundtable"

w/ Jefferson Johnson & other directors. This session is for Collegiate singers and any other interested conferees. Discussion will center around the benefits of ACDA membership, ideas for new teachers/conductors, and Q & A time with a panel of experienced choral directors from around the state and others. Teresa Dody, R & S Chair for Youth and Student Activities, presiding.

Know of anyone who would benefit from membership?

-**New members** application form is on the national website at: <http://acda.org/formregistry>

-If you need to renew, start at: http://acda.org/decision_1 .

-Want to see what other states are doing? Go to: http://acda.org/chapters/state_chapters

With a few clicks, we have available to us a wealth of news and information about the art of making choral music. Check it out!

Meet the Conference Headliner

Dr. Jefferson Johnson

Professor of Music
Director of Choral Activities
University of Kentucky

Degrees:

DMA University of Colorado 1992
MM University of Tennessee 1981
BME University of Georgia 1978



Jefferson Johnson is Director of Choral Activities at the University of Kentucky where he conducts the University Chorale, UK Choristers, and Men's Chorus. He also teaches advanced choral conducting, choral methods and literature, and directs the graduate program (MM and DMA degrees) in choral music. A native of Atlanta, Johnson received the Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Georgia (magna cum laude, 1978), the Master of Music from the University of Tennessee (1981), and the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Colorado (1992). While living in Atlanta, Johnson was also a member of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus and Chamber Chorus conducted by Robert Shaw.

Johnson is presently Music Director of the Lexington Singers. The 180-voice community chorus annually performs major works with the Lexington Philharmonic Orchestra. In 2000 the chorus performed Mozart's Requiem with the Vienna Mozart Orchestra in the famous Hofberg Palace and sang the evening mass at the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris. In 1999 the Lexington Singers celebrated its 40th anniversary with a performance in New York City as Johnson made his Carnegie Hall debut conducting the Singers and orchestra in Faure's Requiem.

Dr. Johnson's recently released video "[Ready...Set...Sing!](#)" is published by Santa Barbara Music Publishing. It has been featured at music educators' conventions from Ohio to Hawaii. In addition, Johnson maintains an active schedule as an adjudicator and guest conductor for high-school and collegiate choirs throughout the United States. He has recently conducted honor choruses in Alabama, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, New York, North Carolina, and South Dakota. He has also been a clinician for the ACDA-National Convention (Washington, D.C.), ACDA-Central Division (Detroit, MI), ACDA-Southern Division (Charleston, SC and Orlando, FL), North Carolina ACDA, Michigan ACDA, Ohio ACDA, Georgia ACDA, Kentucky ACDA, and Iowa ACDA. The University of Kentucky Chorale, under Dr. Johnson's direction, has performed at regional and state conventions of ACDA and MENC.

ACDA Southern Division Conference Information

Memphis, Tennessee March 10-13

Make plans now to have your students participate in the 2010 Southern Division ACDA Conference in Memphis on March 10-13, 2010. Detailed information can be found on the National ACDA national website at <http://acda.org/conferences>. Please go to the following webpage for an interactive copy of the application form for the honor choirs: <http://acda.org/conferences/2010/so> (All ensembles forms are in the same document) Please look this information over and be prepared! West Virginia has been having excellent representation in past years, let's keep this up!

Additionally, there are outstanding workshops and performances for choral directors as well.

Honor Choirs for the convention include a Children's Honor Choir, Sandra Snow, conductor; a Middle School Honor Choir, Paul Caldwell, conductor; a High School Women's Honor Choir, Sigrid Johnson, Conductor; and a High School Men's Honor Choir, Jonathan Reed, conductor.

Meet the Clinicians

Dr. Robert Ward, Collegiate Honor Choir

Dr. Robert J. Ward currently serves as Associate Director of Choral Studies at The Ohio State University (appointed 2004), where he conducts the Men's Glee Club, the Symphonic Choir, and teaches courses in conducting and choral literature. Prior to his appointment at The Ohio State University, Dr. Ward was, for sixteen years, a member of the music faculty at Oklahoma State University. Dr. Ward has been honored with invitations to present concerts and lectures for National ACDA, National Collegiate Choral Organization, Central Division ACDA, North Central Division ACDA, International Kodaly Educators, Organization of American Kodaly Educators Texas Music Educators Association, Texas Choral Directors Association, as well as Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri, Mississippi, Ohio, Utah, Arkansas, and Louisiana Choral Directors Associations. He is currently the editor of a children's choral music series and a men's choral series published through Santa Barbara Music Publishers. In 2001 Dr. Ward was awarded the Director of Distinction Award by the Oklahoma Choral Directors Association and in 1997 was presented the Amoco Outstanding Faculty Award at Oklahoma State University for outstanding undergraduate teaching. He holds the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Michigan State University.



Dr. Robert Ward

Dr. Mark Simmons, High School Chamber Choir

Mark Simmons is Director of Choral Activities and Assistant Professor of Music at the University of Tennessee at Martin. At UTM, he conducts two choral ensembles, teaches beginning and advanced conducting, and secondary choral methods for music education majors. Prior to this appointment, Simmons held positions as the Head of Choral Music Education at the University of Evansville, Evansville, Indiana, Director of Choral Activities at Briar Cliff University, Sioux City, Iowa, and Assistant Professor of Music at Ithaca College, Ithaca, New York. He also taught middle and high school choral and instrumental music for three years at St. Mary's School, Medford, Oregon.

Dr. Simmons is consistently in demand as a guest conductor and adjudicator throughout the region and country. He has conducted Honor and Regional All-State choirs in New York, Arizona, Iowa, Nebraska, and Tennessee. In 2001, he was invited by the Saudi ARAMCO school system to conduct a two-week series of workshops and clinics for western music educators in four cities across the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This engagement culminated in his conducting a 300-voice middle school choral festival in the city of Dhahran, Saudi Arabia. Most recently, he conducted the University of Tennessee at Martin Honor Choir, a festival in which 250 West-Tennessee high school students participated.

Simmons has undertaken significant studies in choral conducting with Janet Galvan, Hugh Floyd, Timothy Koch, David Efron, Samuel Adler, Alfred Mann, and David Stocker. He has also participated in masterclasses with Helmuth Rilling, Kenneth Jennings, and Doreen Rao. Simmons holds a Bachelor of Music in Music Education from Ithaca College, Ithaca, New York, a Master of Music in Choral Conducting from the Eastman School of Music, Rochester, New York, and a Doctor of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting from Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona.



Dr. Mark Simmons

Dr. Judith Willoughby, Junior High / Middle School Honor Choir

Judith Willoughby is the Wanda L. Bass Professor of Conducting and Choral Music Education at Oklahoma City University and Artistic Director of the Youth Choral Program of the Canterbury Choral Society. At OCU, she conducts Ad Astra Women's Chorus, University Singers and teaches courses in music education. Professor Willoughby was inducted, as a National Arts Associate, into the Alpha Zeta chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota, at Oklahoma City University in April 2008.

As a guest conductor, clinician and conference headliner, Willoughby has lead choruses and orchestras in the world's major concert halls in North America, Europe, the Caribbean, Australia and Asia. Highlights of her 2008-2009 season include concerts at Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center, New York City and also Yale University. She is the headliner for the inaugural 2009 Charleston International Festival of Choirs. Willoughby has been an active honor choir conductor for the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA), conducting honor choruses for one national, five divisional and numerous state conventions. She has been privileged to conduct forty-four all state choruses in the United States.

Willoughby served on the board of Chorus America for nine years, including two terms as secretary, and has been active on that organization's conducting taskforce where she co-developed two national choral/orchestral conducting master classes and served as faculty on several others. She was state president for Pennsylvania's ACDA, the Pennsylvania Collegiate Choral Association and Pennsylvania Presenters.



Dr. Judith Willoughby

From the Executive Director

Happy New Year from your ACDA National Headquarters! The month of January presents two important opportunities for our membership, and two important deadlines.

I urge you to take a moment to survey the wonderful choral opportunities through one of our seven upcoming Division Conferences, and take advantage of the January 15 deadline for Early Registration. That deadline is this Friday. We hope you will use the convenient online registration at http://acda.org/conference_registration/main <http://acda.org/conference_registration/main>

The second opportunity is that of exercising your membership benefit of voting in both our National and Division elections that are taking place this month. Online voting through VoteNet could not be easier, and I encourage you to vote before the January 25 deadline. Simply go to <http://acda.org/members/elections> <<http://acda.org/members/elections>> to be a part of shaping ACDA through your important vote.

Thank you for being an important part of the American Choral Directors Association and for all that you do for choral music.

Tim Sharp, Executive Director
American Choral Directors Association

From the Editor

Robert T. Wray
Editor, *Choral Edition*

2010?! What happened to the last two months of 2009?

If you are like me, this thought has been racing through your brain for about three weeks now. I have no idea where November and December went, but I feel as though all I did was blink and they were gone. It is this circumstance that begs me to apologize for the lack of a fall newsletter. I accepted the position of newsletter editor with the understanding that *Choral Edition* would be a priority and a publication that the members of WV ACDA would find full of information and in-sight, and that is what I hope you will find it to be now and in the foreseeable future.

To that end, I am asking every member to consider writing an article for *Choral Edition*. There are certain individuals within WV ACDA who are requested to submit at least once a year, i.e. R & S Chairs, but this publication will only be as all-inclusive as those who contribute. If you are a high school teacher and are finding great success using certain rehearsal planning methods, write an article. If you are a middle school teacher who just attended a fantastic workshop on the changing male voice, write an article. If you are a teacher who is having a difficult time because of new school scheduling, please, please write an article.

I know I said it in the spring *Choral Edition*, but this IS a very exciting time to be involved in the field of choral music in the state of West Virginia. Please find your way to Charleston at the end of January and enjoy the conference. I look forward to reading all about it!

*Mr. Wray is Assistant Professor of
Choral Music Education at
Marshall University*

Choral Edition - Spring 2010

**Article Submission Deadline
Monday, February 22nd**

ACDA Advocacy Resolution

Whereas, the Human spirit is elevated to a broader understanding of itself through the study and performance in the aesthetic arts, and

Whereas, serious cutbacks in funding and support have steadily eroded state institutions and their programs throughout our country,

Be it resolved that all citizens of the United States actively voice their affirmative and collective support for necessary funding at the local, state, and national levels of education and government, to ensure the survival of arts programs.

CHORAL EDITION



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