WCDA

2022 Conference Issue

JANUARY, 2022



### WCDA Conference, January 13-15, 2022

The past two years have presented so many challenges to our profession and our organization. Piled on top was our inability to gather together with our colleagues and friends for much-needed times of reflection, professional growth, and conversation with others who share our passions and our struggles. Due to Covid and the 2020 Midwest ACDA conference in Milwaukee, our last in -person state conference occurred in January 2019 - three years ago!

This year's conference theme is "Finding Our Voice," and it features many exciting interest sessions and performances from Wisconsin choirs of all ages. In addition to traditional reading sessions, we will feature music with flexible and reduced voicings and a reading session devoted to music of Latinx composers. We will sing as an organization several times throughout the conference led by students participating in our collegiate conducting competition. Our headline performer this year is the Artemisia Vocal Trio out of Chicago, a wonderful and eclectic performing group that will present both an interest session and a concert entitled "Sounds Like Us" - a collection of music telling a story of female strength.

For those who would like to join us but are concerned about attending an in-person conference or unable to travel to Milwaukee, we offer an online track that allows you to join us via livestream for most events.

I am super excited about our conference line-up, and I look forward to seeing many of you in Milwaukee as we continue to find our voice again as colleagues and as an organization!

ONLINE REGISTRATION at <a href="https://www.wischoral.org/state-conference">https://www.wischoral.org/state-conference</a>

#### CONFERENCE LODGING

Conference hotels:

Saint Kate - The Arts Hotel, 139 E. Kilbourn Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53202 Aloft Milwaukee Downtown, 1230 N. Old World 3rd St., Milwaukee, WI 53212

All State hotel: Hyatt Regency, 333 W. Kilbourn Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53203

#### **CONFERENCE VENUES**

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church (GELC), 1209 N. Broadway, Milwaukee, WI 53202

UW-Milwaukee Zelazo Center for the Arts (ZELAZO), 2419 E. Kenwood Blvd., Milwaukee, WI 53211

Milwaukee High School of the Arts (MHSA), 2300 W. Highland Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53233

Hyatt Regency (HYATT), 333 W. Kilbourn Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53203



**GELC SANCTUARY** 

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### **CONFERENCE SCHEDULE**

**Registration & Check-In GELC SANCTUARY LOBBY** Friday, January 14: 8-10:30 a.m. & 12:30-4:45 p.m.

Saturday, January 15: 8-10:45 a.m.

Thursday, January 13

Collegiate Conducting Competition **MHSA** 4:00-6:00 Featuring Milwaukee High School of the Arts Choir,

Raymond Roberts, conductor

**WCDA Board Meeting** GELC GREAT HALL 6:00-9:00

<u>Friday, January 14</u>

8:00

9:00-9:10

**GELC SANCTUARY LOBBY** Registration opens

Abendfeier in Venedig, Clara Schumann Interest session: Code Switching for the **GELC SANCTUARY** 9:10-10:10

Conductor, Singer, and Audience Penelope Cruz, White Plains High School, New York, and ACDA Eastern Region President

Welcome and All Conference Sing #1:

10:10-10:15 All Conference Sing #2: **GELC SANCTUARY** Il bianco e dolce cigno, Jacques Arcadelt

10:30-11:30 Interest sessions:

**OPTION A:** Inspiration: Breath-Centered **GELC SANCTUARY Pedagogy for Choral Conductors** 

Robert Gehrenbeck and Rachel Wood, UW-Whitewater

**OPTION B:** Together though apart: lessons I GELC GREAT HALL learned from producing an international virtual performance

Jerry Hui, UW-Stout

11:30-12:00 Lunch—bring a bagged lunch or pre-order Jimmy John's delivery

Seating available in GELC Great Hall

12:00-12:50 Roundtable discussions **GELC GREAT HALL** 

**GELC SANCTUARY** 1:00-2:00 Concert session #1:

> Green Bay Southwest High School Chamber Choir Brandon Rockstroh, director

Video concert featuring:

Oak Creek East & West Middle School 6th and 8th grade choirs Amy Baker (East) and Jacob Warne (West), directors

Milwaukee Children's Choir Lyric Chorale and Combined Choirs

Rachel Maki, director All Conference Sing #3: Dies irae, W. A. Mozart

Reading session sponsored by Brass Bell Music GELC SANCTUARY 2:15-3:15 Conducted by WCDA R&R Chairs; Herb Berendsen, pianist

Interest sessions: 3:30-4:30

**OPTION A:** Foundations of Performance: **GELC GREAT HALL** 

Creating curriculum and concerts with the standards as your foundation

Aimee Swanson, East Troy MS/HS **OPTION B:** It's Christmas! (Or will be **GELC TRINITY ROOM** again before you know it!)

James Kinchen, UW-Parkside

Concert Session #2: **GELC SANCTUARY** 4:45-5:30 WCDA All State Collegiate Choir, Gary Schwartzhoff, director All Conference Sing #4: Hallelujah, Amen, G. F. Handel

Concert Session #3 (conference attendees sit in balcony): **ZELAZO** 7:30-9:15 Chant Claire, Benjamin Bedroske, director

HEADLINER: Artemisia Vocal Trio - "Sounds Like Us" Bus for conference attendees picks up at HYATT at 6:30 and



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### **CONFERENCE SCHEDULE (continued)**

Saturda	V.	January 15	

8:30-9:30 Interest session: Building Confidence **GELC GREAT HALL** through Grounded Singing, Artemisia Vocal Trio

All Conference Sing #5: **GELC GREAT HALL** 9:30-9:35

If Ye Love Me, Thomas Tallis

Concert Session #4: **GELC SANCTUARY** 9:45-11:15

Mukwonago High School Concert Choir

PJ Uhazie, director

Schola Cantorum of Eau Claire

Jerry Hui, director Muskego High School Sorelle Cantanti

Genevieve Michels, director

All Conference Sing #6: Locus iste, Anton Bruckner

HYATT REGENCY A/B WCDA Awards Banquet 11:45-1:15

All Conference Sing #7: Sicut cervus, G. P. da Palestrina

Concert Session #5: All State Jazz Choir **HYATT REGENCY A/B** 1:15-1:45

Kate Reid, director

Combination interest/reading session: HYATT REGENCY C 1:45-2:45

Choral Music of Latin America, Ahmed Anzaldúa,

director of Border CrosSing and co-editor of Justice Choir Songbook

HYATT REGENCY C All Conference Sing #8: 2:45-2:50

Peace I Leave with You, Amy Beach

WCDA All State Middle Level Choir Concert 4:00-4:40 **ZELAZO** 

Penelope Cruz, director

WCDA All State High School Choir Concert **ZELAZO** 5:00-6:30

Bass Choir, Christopher Peterson, director Treble Choir, Frank Watkins, director





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#### **HEADLINER**

### **Artemisia Vocal Trio**



Chicago-based vocal trio Artemisia (*Diana Lawrence*, *Alexandra Olsavsky*, *Kaitlin Foley*) harnesses the power of the female voice to tell stories through the vocal traditions of the world. Praised for "sincerity, wit, and mind-blowing technique" (Vocal Arts Chicago) and for encouraging audiences to "celebrate the eternal feminine" (Robert McBride, All Classical Public Media), Artemisia brings diversity and accessibility to their programming. Not your typical stand-and-sing ensemble, Artemisia draws from a vast repertoire of vocal styes-from Appalachian folk, Tushetian highlander cries, Cuban dance music, and everything in-between to take audiences on a journey of sound and spirit with every performance.

Artemisia actively commissions and performs newly composed works by living female composers. Most recently, they performed a commissioned arrangement of "Es savai māmiṇai" from Latvian composer, Kate Pukinskis, a liturgical premiere of Sungji Hong's *Missa Lumen de Lumine*, and a world premiere of "O Nata Lux", which Hong wrote specifically for the group. In addition to new commissions, all three members of Artemisia regularly compose for the group internally, frequently adding new arrangements and original compositions of their own to their programs. In addition to performing, Artemisia provides educational outreach to community and youth ensembles on subjects such as cultural literacy through singing, improvisational songwriting, and female empowerment.

"Sounds Like Us" tells a timely story of female strength through the raw power of the female voice. In an engaging staged performance, witness women across continents find strength and courage in unexpected ways: On the plains of Kartli, Georgia, after a hard day's work in the sun; Gathered around the dinner table, in preparation for Hanukkah; In the ancient creation song of Cuban goddess of the sea, Yemayá; Through the wooing music of Croatia, newly claimed by female voices; From one of the Grand Ole Oprey's first female groups, in a tongue-in-cheek act on female autonomy; Through defiant young women daring to ask important questions of themselves and of their communities.

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#### **INTEREST SESSIONS**

**Code Switching for the Conductor, Singer, and Audience** Penelope Cruz, White Plains High School, New York, and ACDA Eastern Region President

Friday, January 14, 9:10-10:10 a.m., GELC Sanctuary

In every rehearsal and performance, the conductor and the singers make decisions about how they will present the music and themselves to each other and to an audience. That decision-making is further complicated by the identities in the room and the repertoire. Some of us have never had to 'code switch' and some of us have never had to NOT code switch. We will consider the energy required and the ease engendered by code switching in our ensembles and repertoire.



Penelope Cruz has taught vocal and general music at all grade levels, conducted community children's and honor choirs, and sung professionally in Illinois, Wisconsin, and New York. Since 2003, she has been the choral conductor at White Plains (NY) High School. She is President of the American Choral Directors' Association (ACDA) Eastern Region. Until recently, she was co-chair of the inaugural National ACDA Diversity Initiatives Committee. She has served as the program and honor choir chair for Eastern Region conferences since 2012. Cruz was the NY ACDA President (2014-2015) after being the

Repertoire and Standards chair. In these roles, she has led conference programs, presented various workshops, has aimed to bring quality repertoire to every situation, and fostered diversity of all kinds. She was a writer on the Arts Standards Revision Committee for the New York State Education Department. Cruz is a graduate of the Oberlin Conservatory and the Eastman School of Music. Born and raised in Wisconsin, she currently lives in Brooklyn, New York.

#### Inspiration: Breath-Centered Pedagogy for Choral Conductors Robert Gehrenbeck and Rachel Wood, UW-Whitewater Friday, January 14, 10:30-11:30 a.m., GELC Sanctuary

This session will address four central issues of vocal technique in choral singing: breath as the foundation of choral tone and expressive singing, vocal registration, integrating solo voice instruction in the choral setting, and conducting techniques to inspire expressive singing and healthful vocal technique. Presenters will discuss innovative teaching and rehearsal strategies that address a variety of learning styles and will be relevant to students of all ages.



Robert Gehrenbeck is Director of Choral Activities at UW-Whitewater, where he conducts the UWW Chamber Singers, Concert Choir, Singing Sirens, and opera and musical theatre productions. He is also Artistic Director of the Madison-based Wisconsin Chamber Choir. As a singer, Gehrenbeck has appeared with the Robert Shaw Festival Singers, New York State Baroque, and the Bloomington Early Music Festival. He holds degrees from Macalester College, Boston University, and Indiana University, with additional studies at the Mendelssohn Conservatory in Leipzig, Germany.



Mezzo-soprano **Rachel Wood** has appeared in opera, concert, and recital performances across Canada, the United States, Italy, and the Netherlands. She has appeared as a soloist in concert performances with instrumental and choral ensembles throughout the Midwest. Dr. Wood holds degrees from Indiana University and Western University, and is currently an Assistant Professor of Voice at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater.



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### Together Though Apart: Lessons I Learned from Producing an International Virtual Performance

Jerry Hui, UW-Stout

Friday, January 14, 10:30-11:30 a.m., GELC Great Hall

We have been pushed into virtual choirs, but how might we harness excitement, musicianship, and meaningful music making out of them? In Spring 2021, the UW-Stout band and choir collaborated with Brazilian singer-songwriter Paulo Padilha to produce an original arrangement of Paulo's latest song. This session shares the process, joy, educational experience, and ultimately human connection found through the project, hoping it will serve as a spark for you to keep creating virtually or otherwise.

Jerry (Chiwei) Hui is the founder, director and conductor of many ensembles throughout the years; recent affiliations include early music ensemble Eliza's Toyes (Madison, WI), contemporary performance arts group New Music Everywhere (Madison, WI), the Menomonie Singers, and Schola Cantorum of Eau Claire. He is currently teaching at the University of Wisconsin-Stout. Besides being an active vocalist and conductor, Mr. Hui is also an award-winning composer of chamber music, choral works and a present school music has been performed in the conductor of the performed in the performance and performed in the performance are performed in the performan



works and opera, whose music has been performed in the United States, Germany, France, Scotland, Indonesia, China, Taiwan and Hong Kong.

### Foundations of Performance: Creating Curriculum and Concerts with the Standards as Your Foundation

Aimee Swanson, East Troy Middle and High School Friday, January 14, 3:30-4:30 p.m., GELC Great Hall

Friday, January 14, 3:30-4:30 p.m., GELC Great Hall
The past two school years have created a new depth to the creativity and ingenuity of music educators across the globe. Performing ensembles' and directors' previous focus on performance drastically shifted to the creating, responding, and connecting standards through music. How do we take this forward and make sure that this holistic approach to music education continues as the pressures to prepare for concerts and performances returns?

**Aimee Swanson** is in her 14th year of education and her seventh year as the 7-12 grade choral and general music educator for the East Troy Community School District. Swanson strives to take her students beyond the walls of the classroom and the boundaries of their town, to experience varied aspects of music and life. She has worked to bring culturally diverse composers to the classroom



in order to help students explore the create, perform, respond and connect standards. As a member of the WMEA Standards Committee and the iListenWI Committee, Swanson has led many Wisconsin State Music Conference sessions and workshops, sharing her passion for music education with colleagues across the state.

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### It's Christmas! (Or Will Be Again Before You Know It!)

James Kinchen, UW-Parkside

Friday, January 14, 3:30-4:30 p.m., GELC Trinity Room

Many if not most of us do concerts in our school or community venues that include "holiday" repertoire. Even as we are more inclusive of a variety of traditions in our programming, predictably, much of that literature focuses on Christmas, still the most popular and widely celebrated of winter holidays. Offering opportunities to read some literature and listen to recordings of other pieces, this session explores some of the diverse sacred and secular program entrées that will provide warm and memorable, yet qualitative, moments for your singers and audiences alike. Consider these pieces when you begin to explore November and December concert offerings.



Veteran choral artist and educator, **James Kinchen** has served the choral community in a number of capacities, including President of WCDA and of the former North Central Division of ACDA. He is a proud recipient of the Morris D. Hayes Award. He is also now the regional representive on NAfME's Choral Education Council. James is Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities at University of Wisconsin-Parkside.

#### **Latin American Choral Music**

Ahmed Anzaldúa, director of Border CrosSing and co-editor of the Justice Choir songbook

Saturday, January 15, 1:45-2:45, Hyatt Regency C

A combination interest and reading session focusing on the music of Latinx composers.



Ahmed Anzaldúa is a Mexican choral conductor, classical pianist, and music educator of Egyptian descent. He is an active musician, performing in Mexico and the United States frequently as a soloist and conductor with choirs, orchestras, in recitals, and as a collaborative pianist. He currently lives in the city of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and is the director and founder of Border CrosSing, an organization dedicated to integrating

historically-segregated audiences, repertoire, and musicians through the performance of choral music. He is also a co-editor of the Justice Choir songbook and Director of Music Ministries at Unity Church - Unitarian.

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#### **AUDITIONED CHOIRS**

### **Green Bay Southwest High School Chamber Choir Brandon Rockstroh, director**

Friday, January 14, 1:00 p.m., GELC Sanctuary

The Immortal Memory

Death Came-A-Knockin' - Ruthie Foster, arr. Paul Rardin The Red-Gold Darkness of Rain - Dominick DiOrio O Quam Gloriosum - Jacob Narverud The Immortal Memory - Thomas LaVoy Crossing the Bar - Gwyneth Walker

The **Southwest High School Chamber Choir** of Green Bay, WI is the flagship ensemble in a department of 160 choir students. This auditioned mixed choir of 32 singers performs collegiate-level repertoire regularly throughout the state and is honored to be performing at their third music educator convention today! But more than awards and accolades, Chamber Choir aims to be no more/no less than a collection of kind human beings who bring out the best in each other.





**Brandon M. Rockstroh** is Director of Choirs at Southwest High School in Green Bay, WI. He is honored to have been named a "Teacher of Distinction" in 2012 (Green Bay Chamber of Commerce), a "Golden Apple Award" Winner in 2016 (Green Bay Chamber of Commerce), "Outstanding Young Choral Director" in 2017 (Wisconsin Choral Directors Association), and a Kohl Fellowship Recipient in 2020 (Herb Kohl Educational Foundation). Brandon's choirs have performed at three state music educator conventions, and were most recently featured at the 2021 NEA National Conference as an example of how music pro-

grams continued to thrive during the pandemic. Brandon has performed professionally in New York City, and his original musical, *The Book of Empty Pages*, premiered in 2017 to critical acclaim.

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### Oak Creek East and West Middle School 6th and 8th Grade Choirs Jacob Warne and Amy Baker, directors

Video performance, Friday, January 14, 1:30 p.m., GELC Sanctuary





EMS 6th Grade Choir

WMS 6th Grade Choir

The choirs at both **Oak Creek East and West Middle School** meet for 35 minutes daily and have biweekly small group lessons. Oak Creek middle school choirs have performed the national anthem at Milwaukee professional sports events and at other events in the greater Milwaukee community. Both schools feed into the excellent choir program at Oak Creek High School.



**Jacob Warne** has been teaching choir, general music, ukulele and guitar at Oak Creek West Middle School since 2015. Prior to that, he taught at Williams Bay Jr./Sr. High and at Milwaukee High School of the Arts. He is a graduate of Carroll University in Waukesha, WI. Mr. Warne is a very active performer, songwriter and recording artist both as an acoustic solo artist and with his original hard rock band, Amberstein.



Amy Baker has been teaching choir and general music at Oak Creek East Middle School since 2005. Prior to that, she taught at St. Jude the Apostle School in Wauwatosa and Brown Deer Middle School. Ms. Baker is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She is an active accompanist, playing for the Barcel Suzuki String Academy and the 2021 and 2022 WCDA All-State Middle Level Choirs. Ms. Baker currently serves as the Southeast Representative for WCDA.

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Milwaukee Children's Choir Lyric Chorale and Combined Choirs Rachel Maki, director

Video performance, Friday, January 14, 1:30 p.m., GELC Sanctuary



Milwaukee Children's Choir is Southeastern Wisconsin's premier youth choir. Founded in 1994 by Emily Crocker, Milwaukee Children's Choir has been delighting audiences throughout our city and around the country through inperson concerts and now with virtual concerts and live streams. Last season, Milwaukee Children's Choir collaborated in a virtual production of "What the World Needs Now" with local artists Andrew Varela, Cecilia Davis, and Bel Canto Chorus and national artists Graycie Gardner (a former MCC singer), Anthony Murphy from the Broadway tour of Aladdin, Sesame Street actor Alan Muraoka, and The Hong Kong Children's Choir. Milwaukee Children's Choir collaborates regularly with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra and the Milwaukee Ballet in annual productions of Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker." This year, the choir joined Bel Canto, directed by Richard Hynson, for their "Christmas in the Basilica" concerts. The choir also tours at the regional, national, and international level. The Lyric Chorale serves as the premiere choral ensemble of the Milwaukee Children's Choir program. This advanced treble choir engages singers in grades 6-9 with demanding choral repertoire of all styles and genres, including master works.

Rachel Maki has educated students of all levels throughout Michigan, New Jersey, and Wisconsin in school and after school choral organizations. As an advocate of music education, Rachel led a Wisconsin school to receive the 2014 GRAMMY Select Schools Enterprise Award, given to high schools music programs that are retaining their music programs despite continued budgetary limitations. Maki served as the Associate Artistic Director of Milwaukee Children's Choir for three years and is now in her second season as Artistic Director. A native of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, Maki has performed with the Philadelphia



Orchestra, New York Philharmonic, New Jersey Symphony, and Vienna Philharmonic while under the direction of internationally renowned conductors Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Daniele Gatti, Jacques Lacombe, Alan Gilbert, and Vladimir Jurowski. Maki holds a Bachelor of Music Education from Northern Michigan University and a Master of Music with distinction from Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey.

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### Chant Claire, Benjamin Bedroske, director

Friday, January 14, 7:30 p.m., Zelazo

Blagoslovi Dushe Moya Gospoda (Op. 37, No. 2) - Sergei Rachmaninoff Singer's Farewell - Gabriel Kyne Ndikhokhele Bawo - arr. Michael Barrett Õhtul - Pärt Uusberg Loquebantur Variis Linguis - Thomas Tallis Many Are The Wonders (Reflection On Tallis 'Loquebantur') - Ken Burton



Chant Claire, French for "clear song," was founded by director Benjamin Bedroske in the fall of 2013 with the intent to explore rigorous and thoughtful choral repertoire with singers and audiences throughout the Milwaukee area. The ensemble is composed of a wide variety of music educators, performers, and community members who are dedicated to Chant Claire's mission of creating authentic music in an authentic community. Chant Claire aims to combine the power of a large choir with the clarity of a chamber ensemble. Chant Claire has collaborated with numerous ensembles, including Skylight Music Theatre, Milwaukee Opera Theatre, Danceworks, Aperi Animam, the Marion Consort, the Alverno College Choir, Milwaukee Children's Choir, and the UW-Eau Claire Concert Choir. In 2017, the ensemble was selected to participate in a workshop with composer Eric Whitacre at the Basilica of St. Josaphat. Chant Claire returned to the Basilica in 2019 as the featured choir at the American Guild of Organists-Milwaukee Chapter's 100th Anniversary Regional Convention.

**Benjamin Bedroske** is the founder and artistic director of Chant Claire Chamber Choir. Bedroske is a 2011 music education graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. He is currently director of music and worship and cantor at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church & School in Wauwatosa, and also directs the Stevan Sijacki Choir of St. Sava Serbian Orthodox



Church. He previously taught choir at the middle and high school levels, served as the Men's Choir director for Singing in Wisconsin, and performed as a section leader in the Bel Canto Chorus. In 2017, he directed choral rehearsals for the touring *Zelda: Symphony of the Goddesses at the Riverside Theater, and in 2019 he conducted Carmina Burana at Skylight Music Theatre.* 

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### **Mukwonago High School Concert Choir** PJ Uhazie, director

Saturday, January 15, 9:45 a.m., GELC Sanctuary

Visceral Energy, Profound Faith

Hanacpachap Cussicuinin - Anonymous Daemon Irrepit Callidus - György Orbán Nyon Nyon - Jake Runestad Sanctus - Franz Schubert Deep River - Traditional spiritual arr. Roy Ringwald The Ground - Ola Gjeilo Magnificat - Jackson Berkey



The Mukwonago Area School District's choral program encompasses approximately 400 students in 7th through 12th grade across 7 curricular and 8 extracurricular ensembles. At Mukwonago High School, all students are introduced to the high school program through Cantus (entry bass ensemble) or Cantare (entry treble ensemble). After a successful audition, students may participate in the intermediate Varsity Treble ensemble, the curricular Show Choir, or the flagship SATB **Concert Choir**. Outside of the school day, students are able to sing in either Phantom Gold (9-10 chamber ensemble), Shades of Blue (11-12 chamber ensemble), the Mukwona-Bros (tenor-bass ensemble), Cantabile (advanced treble ensemble), or Necessary Treble (9-10 treble sextet). Students regularly clinic with professional artists (The Wisconsin Singers of UW Madison, Kids from Wisconsin staff, UW System and private university collegiate directors), collaborate with composers to commission new music, and participate in regional, state, and national competitions, festivals, and honor choirs.



Michigan-born conductor and baritone **PJ Uhazie** has had the privilege of performing opera, oratorio, musical theater, and choral music throughout the Midwest. Uhazie's ensembles have received awards for both their arts advocacy and musical excellence, including the 2020 national gold medal for community engagement through Music for All's Arts in Advocacy program and perfect scores at state festivals. In 2020, Uhazie was awarded "Best Musical Direction of a Musical" through the Wisconsin Jerry Awards for Mukwonago High School's production of Hello Dolly! Uhazie currently teaches at Mukwonago High School where he leads 4 curricular concert choirs, a curricular show choir,

individual voice lessons, 5 extracurricular chamber ensembles and a unified music class for atypical learners. Prior to teaching at Mukwonago, Uhazie served as choir director at Sabish Middle School in Fond du Lac and Director of Music Ministry at First United Methodist Church of Appleton. Uhazie graduated magna cum laude from Lawrence University in 2017 with a degree in music education and a minor in vocal pedagogy. In 2018, the university chose Uhazie as the recipient of the Pi Kappa Lambda award for excellence in music educati

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### Schola Cantorum of Eau Claire, Jerry Hui, director Saturday, January 15, 10:15 a.m., GELC Sanctuary

Take Time While Time Doth Last
O tempo, o ciel volubil - Orlando di Lasso
Draw on, sweet night - John Wilbye
Io mi son giovinetta - Claudio Monteverdi
Occhi un tempo mia vita - Claudio Monteverdi
Nasce la gioia mia - Giovan Leonardo Primavera
Tribulation - Walter Janes



**Schola Cantorum of Eau Claire** is a chamber ensemble in the Chippewa Valley area dedicated to the historically informed performance of a cappella vocal music of the medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque periods. Now in its fifth season, Schola has frequently performed in the Chippewa Valley area and has been invited to perform at the Wisconsin Choral Directors' Association, the papal Candlemas by the Madison Diocese, and the Madison Early Music Festival Fringe Series.

Jerry (Chiwei) Hui is the founder, director and conductor of many ensembles throughout the years; recent affiliations include early music ensemble Eliza's Toyes (Madison, WI), contemporary performance arts group New Music Everywhere (Madison, WI), the Menomonie Singers, and Schola Cantorum of Eau Claire. He is currently teaching at the University of Wisconsin-Stout. Besides being an active vocalist and conductor, Mr. Hui is also an award-winning composer of chamber music, choral works and



opera, whose music has been performed in the United States, Germany, France, Scotland, Indonesia, China, Taiwan and Hong Kong.

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### Muskego High School Sorelle Cantanti Genevieve Michels, director

Saturday, January 15, 10:45 a.m., GELC Sanctuary

### **Resilience**

Lineage - Andrea Ramsey, text by Margaret Walker Kur tu biji, bāleliņi - Selga Mence Resilience - Abbie Betinis Now I Become Myself - Gwyneth Walker, text by May Sarton Where the Light Begins - Susan Labarr, text by Jan Richardson



**Sorelle Cantanti** was established in 2006 as the auditioned treble ensemble at Muskego High School. The ensemble consists of students grades 10-12. In 2010, Sorelle Cantanti was invited to perform at the WMEA Convention. The choir has enjoyed performing in New York City, San Antonio, and Disney World. In recent years, they have had the honor of commissioning composers Dale Trumbore and Zachary Moore, and they have worked in masterclass with Joan Szymko and Rollo Dilworth.



Genevieve Michels has been a member of the choral faculty at Muskego High School since 2014. She holds a BFA in Music Education from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She will complete her Masters degree in Music Education this summer. Prior to Muskego, she taught in the School District of Waukesha at Waukesha West High School and Butler Middle School. In 2015 she was recognized as the Wisconsin Choral Director Association's Outstanding Young Choral Director.

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#### ALL-STATE CHOIRS

All State Collegiate Choir, Gary Schwartzhoff, director Kayoko Miyazawa, pianist; Eva Stokes, coordinator Friday, January 14, 4:45 p.m., GELC Sanctuary

Vox Populi - Giedrius Svilainis Magnificat - Johann Caspar Aiblinger, ed. Martin Banner Ubi Caritas - Ola Gjeilo I Will Lift My Eyes - Zachary Moore Light Beyond Shadow - Dan Forrest No Time - Susan Brumfield



Gary R. Schwartzhoff, Professor Emeritus, served as the Director of Choral Activities at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire from 1991 to 2016. In addition, he taught choral music in Iowa, Missouri, and Wisconsin during his career. Schwartzhoff received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Central College in Pella, Iowa, a Master of Music Degree in Choral Conducting from the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, Iowa and a Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in Conducting at the University of Missouri, Kansas City, Missouri. In 2021-2022, Schwartzhoff marks his forty-eighth year as a music educator. Intercollegiate Men's Choruses presented Schwartzhoff with the Marshall Bartholomew

Lifetime Achievement Award in March 2020. He has been active throughout his professional career in the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) where he served as President of the North Central Division from 1992-94. The Wisconsin Choral Directors Association (WCDA) awarded him the Morris Hayes Lifetime Achievement Award (2010) and the Outstanding Church Musician (2007). Schwartzhoff has presented choirs on over thirty conventions before the state, divisional and national levels of ACDA, Intercollegiate Male Choruses and The National Association for Music Education. Schwartzhoff has conducted the Oklahoma All-State, Minnesota Men's All-State Choir and WCDA Men's Honor Chorus. Schwartzhoff has conducted choral festivals honoring former Presidents of the United States in Washington D.C. in 2009 (Lincoln), 2013 (JFK) and 2016 (FDR). In 2019, Schwartzhoff conducted the 75th Anniversary of D-Day and the Liberation of France Choral Festival in Paris, France. In 2022, he will conduct the WCDA Collegiate All-State Choir. Schwartzhoff conducts The Master Singers in Eau Claire and serves as Director of Music at the First Congregational United Church of Christ in Eau Claire, where he conducts the Chancel Choir. Gary is married to Nancy Schwartzhoff and they have two daughters, Jenifer Morgan (Jerry), and Rebecca Johnson (Andy), and grandchildren Brady, Alex, Anna, Emma, and Clare.

- \* Registration Information
- \* Conference Schedule
- \* Headliner
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2022 Conference Issue

All State Jazz Choir, Kate Reid, director Christine Salerno, pianist; Tim Buchholz, coordinator Saturday, January 15, 1:15 p.m., Hyatt Regency A/B

April in Paris - Harburg and Duke, arr. Kerry Marsh Beautiful Friendship - Khan and Styne, arr. Matt Falker If I Loved You - Rodgers & Hammerstein, arr. Phil Mattson Snow Samba - arr. Darmon Meader



Kate Reid is Director of the Jazz Vocal Performance program and Associate Professor of jazz voice in the Studio Music and Jazz department at the FROST SCHOOL OF MUSIC at the University of Miami. Apart from overseeing all aspects of the Jazz Vocal Performance program, Professor Reid directs two of the FROST's three jazz vocal ensembles -- FROST Extensions and FROST Jazz Vocal I. Dr. Reid also teaches jazz improvisation, sight-singing and music theory and she maintains a full jazz voice studio of undergraduate and graduate students. Dr. Reid enjoys a busy career as a guest artist, conductor, clinician and adjudicator at all-state

jazz and choral festivals through the United States and Canada, among them, the Sacramento State Jazz Festival, Illinois Wesleyan University Jazz Festival, Alberta Choral Festival, Ontario Vocal Festival, Reno Jazz Festival, Eastern Washington University Jazz Festival, Minnesota State University Moorhead, Millikin University Vocal Jazz Festival, Northern Arizona University Mad/Jazz Fest, the Rocky Mountain Music Festival at Banff and the vocal jazz festivals in California at Cuesta College, MiraCosta College, and Fullerton College. She has also participated in the Manhattan Concert Productions Jazz Series and has conducted the California, New York, New Hampshire and Oklahoma All-State jazz choirs. Before joining the faculty at the FROST SCHOOL OF MUSIC, Dr. Reid was Professor of Music and Director of Vocal Jazz at Cypress College in Cypress, California for eleven years. While living in Southern California, Dr. Reid appeared regularly with her own quartet at jazz venues throughout the Los Angeles area. She has worked with many great jazz musicians in Southern California, including guitarists Ron Eschete, Larry Koonse and Bruce Forman, and drummers Roy McCurdy and Jamey Tate. Dr. Reid's CD, The Love I'm In (2012), features tenor saxophonist Ernie Watts and pianist Otmaro Ruiz. Like her album Sentimental Mood (2008), The Love I'm In features tunes from the Great American songbook and it received extensive airplay on jazz radio stations throughout the U.S., Canada, Europe and South Africa. In addition, Dr. Reid has performed with many renowned artists, including John Clayton, Robin Eubanks, Jon Hendricks, Grady Tate, Mercer Ellington, Don Shelton, Mark Murphy, the Duke Ellington Orchestra, Liza Minelli, Mark Murphy, Rosemary Clooney, Dianne Schurr and Dr. Billy Taylor. Dr. Reid's multifaceted career also includes work as a studio and session singer in Los Angeles. Her film credits include *Planes, Star Trek Into Darkness, Oz-The Great and Powerful, Epic and Men In Black III,* featuring the music of composers Danny Elfman, Michael Giacchino, John Powell and Joel McNeely. She has lent her voice to several network television series, to commercial spots for Ace Hardware, T-Mobile, and Suntory Whiskey, and to recordings by such artists as MUSE, X Japan and Josh Groban. In addition to teaching at the FROST SCHOOL OF MUSIC, Dr. Reid continues to perform, record and teach throughout the U.S. and Europe. Dr. Reid earned her B.M. in Jazz Studies from Western Michigan University and a M.M. and D.M.A. in Jazz Vocal Performance from the University of Miami.



2022 Conference Issue

### All State Middle Level Choir, Penelope Cruz, director Amy Baker, pianist; Jean Enyeart, coordinator

Saturday, January 15, 4:00 p.m., Zelazo

There Has to Be a Song - Andrea Ramsey The Road Not Taken from *Frostiana - Randall Thompson* Giovanni Lieti from *Le Nozze de Figaro - W. A. Mozart, arr. Patrick Liebergen* 

Call Me But Love - Phillip Silvey

Marujo de Rosario - Brazilian Folk Song, arr. Elisa Dekaney and Eduardo Lakschevitz

I Sing Because I'm Happy - Gabriel and Martin, arr. Kenneth Paden, adapted by Rollo Dilworth



Penelope Cruz has taught vocal music at all grade levels, conducted school, community children's, and honor choirs, and sung professionally in Illinois, Wisconsin, and New York. Since 2003, she has been the choral conductor at White Plains (NY) High School. She is President of the American Choral Directors' Association (ACDA) Eastern Region. Until just recently, she served as co-chair of the inaugural National ACDA Diversity Initiatives Committee through which she made contributions to the Choral Journal and as part of an ad hoc committee on audition guidelines for honor choirs and auditioned choirs. She served as the program

chair for the Eastern Region ACDA 2016 and 2020 conferences and Honor Choirs Chair (2012 and 2014), where she initiated the Latino Repertoire and Chinese Repertoire Honor choirs. Cruz was NY State ACDA President (2014-2015) after serving as a Repertoire and Standards chair for both Women's Choirs and Multicultural and Ethnic Perspectives. In these roles, she has led meaningful conference programs, presented various workshops, has aimed to bring quality repertoire to every situation, and fostered diversity of all kinds. In a wish to contribute to the field of music education, Ms. Cruz has been a member of the New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA)'s Diversity Committee and served on the Vocal Solo Repertoire selection committee for its contest manual. In 2016, she was a writer on the Arts Standards Revision Committee for the New York State Education Department. Penelope Cruz is a graduate of the Oberlin Conservatory and earned the Masters of Music degree from Eastman School of Music. Born and raised in Wisconsin, she currently lives in Brooklyn, New York.

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2022 Conference Issue

#### All State High School Bass Choir, Christopher Peterson, director Joan Nowaczynski, pianist PJ Uhazie and Mathew Anderson, coordinators

Saturday, January 15, 5:00 p.m., Zelazo

O Sing to the Lord - Dan Davison Der Gondelfahrer - Franz Schubert, ed. Carl Zytowski Canto del Agua - David Hill Lunar Lullaby - Jacob Narverud I'm Yours - Jason Mraz, arr. Christopher Peterson An Old-Fashioned Song (Don't You Hate It) - Douglas Bernstein and Denis Markell, arr. Christopher Peterson



Christopher Peterson is a teacher, conductor, choral clinician, author, editor, composer, and choral arranger of music and books published in the United States and around the world. In his over thirty years as a music educator Dr. Peterson has taught in elementary, middle school, high school, church, community, festival, and collegiate settings. He earned the Bachelor of Science in Music Education from the University of Southern Maine in choral and instrumental music education and taught music for nine years in the public schools of Maine. He earned the Master of Music in Choral Conducting degree at the University of Maine, and the Doctor of Philosophy

in Music Education and Choral Conducting at Florida State University. He had the honor of teaching at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee for seven years before moving to Southern California to teach at California State University, Fullerton in 2007. At CSUF he has trained and mentored undergraduate and graduate choral music educators and conductors and has directed the Concert Choir and the Singing Titans Chorus. In May of 2019 he was honored as the University-wide recipient of the CSUF Carol Barnes Award for Excellence in Teaching. He has served as State Choral Representative and Southern Section President for the California Music Educators Association (CMEA), as well as the Western Division Representative for the National Association for Music Education's (NAfME) Council for Choral Education. He has also served the California Choral Directors Association in various offices, and is the current CCDA President. He has been invited to teach, judge, and conduct choirs in more than thirty US states, five Canadian Provinces, and nine countries including China, England, Sweden, Japan, Germany, New Zealand, and Holland, and has conducted All-State Choirs across the nation including Maine, North Carolina, Oregon, and California. Dr. Peterson also holds the position of Director of Music at Irvine United Congregational Church in Irvine, CA. His "hobby" for many decades has been enjoying singing barbershop harmony, and he is a BHS District Quartet Champion baritone, a top-5 medalist chorus director, and a four-time gold medalist with the Masters of Harmony, nine-time International Men's Chorus Champions of the Barbershop Harmony Society.

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2022 Conference Issue

All State High School Treble Choir, Frank Watkins, director Josh Chandra, pianist; Sarah Plum, coordinator Saturday, January 15, 5:45 p.m., Zelazo

Abendlied - Felix Mendelssohn

Snoshti Sām Minal - Bulgarian Folk Song, arr. Petār Krumov Diavolana Fenomanana - Malagasy Folk Song The Women Gather - Carol Maillard What Happens When a Woman - Alexandra Olsavsky, arr. Artemisia



**Frank A. Watkins** is an Associate Professor of Music and Director of Choral Studies at the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire. A native of Omaha Nebraska, Watkins taught secondary choral music in Texas for six years. He holds degrees in piano performance from Jackson State University (BM), the University of Arkansas (MM),

and choral conducting from Northwestern University (MM) and Michigan State University (DMA). Watkins is in demand as guest conductor and clinician. In 2016, he was appointed Conductor and Music Director of the Eau Claire Chamber Orchestra. Recent engagements include the Big Nine Festival Honor Choir, the Great Northern Conference All- Conference Choir, Cloverbelt All-Conference Honor Choir, the 2018 Men's Choir Festival, Big 8 Choral Festival, Northwest Suburban Conference Choir, and the 2021 WSMA State Honors Mixed Choir. He has presented workshops on choral methods for the International Music and Christian Arts Conference, Michigan State University, and the Ohio State University. He has presented workshops at both the Wisconsin Music Educators State Convention and the National Collegiate Choral Organization National Conference. Additionally, he has taught internationally with Village Harmony. Choirs under his direction have performed at the Wisconsin Music Educators State Conference and the North Central Divisional Conference of the American Choral Directors Association. In 2017-18, Watkins led an International Fellows Trip to Dakar, Senegal to study the use of hip-hop and rap as a form of non-violent political protest. In 2019, Watkins was a guest lecturer in Cape Town, South Africa. Watkins' research interests include the intersectionality of race, class, and gender in the music of African-American Women in the 21st century. Watkins joined the faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire in 2014. A dynamic young conductor, Watkins' love and passion are teaching. He believes that in order to educate, you must first inspire! It is his goal to make an impact...not just an impression on the lives of those that follow his baton.

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2022 Conference Issue

#### THANK YOU TO THESE GENEROUS SPONSORS!

Brass Bell Music, Milwaukee - sponsored music for all reading sessions Hal Leonard - sponsored conference registrations for students in the collegiate conducting competitions and all reading session music distributed by Hal Leonard

**Conference Leadership** 

Conference Chair – Zack Durlam
All-State Chair - Michael Jones
Facilities Chair - Jon Brooks
Technology Chair - Jerry Hui
Registration/Communications Chair - Paul Thompson
Reading Session Chair - Chris McGinley
Auditioned Choirs Chair - Shannon Gravelle
Interest Session Chair - Frank Watkins
Hospitality Chair - Katelyn Peterson
Conducting Competition Chair - Leticia Grutzmann

#### **WCDA Board**

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Cathy Reitz, Community Choir Chair
Eric Leih, Middle Level & Youth Area Chair
Toni Weijola, Children and Community Youth Chair
David Bowman, High School Chair



2022 Conference Issue

#### **NOTES AND REMINDERS:**

- Admission to all Conference events will be by registration badge. No tickets will be necessary.
- Remember to bring a bag lunch or preorder a sub for Friday's Round Table lunches.
- Please turn off sound on all electronic devices during concerts and sessions.
- Photography or audio/video recording of sessions or concerts are NOT permitted except by pre-approved individuals and hired professionals.

### CONFERENCE LOCATIONS, PARKING, AND MAPS

**Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church (GELC)**, 1209 N. Broadway, Milwaukee, WI 53202; parking:

- Milwaukee, WI 53202; parking:
  Surface lot west of GELC on Market St. between Knapp and Juneau
- Parking structure northwest of GELC on Market St. north of Knapp

**UW-Milwaukee Zelazo Center for the Arts**, 2419 E. Kenwood Blvd., Milwaukee, WI 53211; parking:

- Surface lot on the south side of Zelazo
- Parking structure across the street to the northwest of Zelazo student union parking ramp

Milwaukee High School of the Arts, 2300 W. Highland Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53233

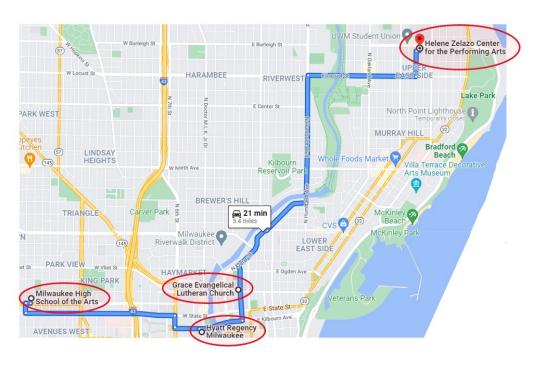
Hyatt Regency, 333 W. Kilbourn Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53203

Conference hotel room blocks:

**Saint Kate - The Arts Hotel**, 139 E. Kilbourn Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53202, <u>St. Kate booking link</u>

**Aloft Milwaukee Downtown**, 1230 N. Old World 3rd St., Milwaukee, WI 53212, <u>Aloft booking link</u>







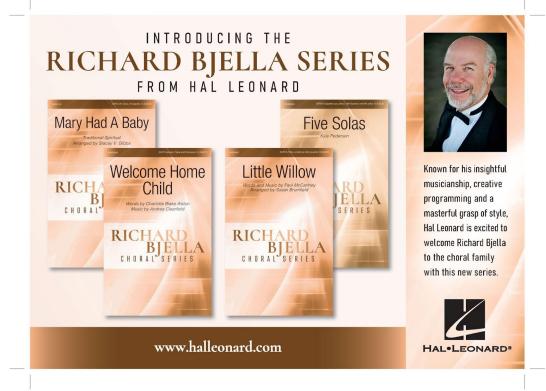
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#### Join us for NextDirection and Refresh! in summer 2022!

NextDirection - UW-Eau Claire Registration opens Jan. 2, priority deadline Mar. 30 Collegiate - July 11-15; first-year teachers also welcome! High School - July 13-15 www.wischoral.org/nextdirection

Refresh!, UW-Eau Claire July 13-14 www.wischoral.org/refresh



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Wisconsin Choral Directors Association 20816 River Hills Way Kiel, WI 53042 www.wischoral.org