

invitation



2023 WCDA Winter Conference

Appleton | January 13–14

Headline Performance

Headline Performance: Border CrossSing

Ahmed Fernando Anzaldúa El Samkary, Artistic Director

Friday, January 13, 8:00 p.m., Lawrence University Memorial Chapel



Border CrossSing is an award-winning Minnesota-based arts non-profit. Our mission-driven work includes our historic 2019 performance of Osvaldo Golijov's "la Pasión según San Marcos" with the Minnesota Orchestra, named as one of the year's best concerts by the Star Tribune; our sheet music editions and publications on Graphite; and the publication of our first studio album with Bridge Records in April 2022 that celebrates BIPOC composers across the Americas. Our programming gained international attention when we became recipients of the 2020 ASCAP Award for Adventurous Programming, awarded by Chorus America.

Ahmed Fernando Anzaldúa El Samkary is a Mexican conductor and pianist of Egyptian descent. Early in his career, he was awarded the first prize at the Maria Clara Culler International Piano Competition. He's since then avoided participating in competitions in favor of championing the works of new composers and exploring his musical heritage. Ahmed is a recognized authority in Latin American and Spanish music, particularly the compositions of Federico Mompou and Miguel Bernal Jiménez. He regularly collaborates with composers to premiere new works, including Helmut Lachenmann, Paul Lansky, and Arturo Marquez. His most recent recordings include *Carteles*, recorded for FMM, and *Contemplating Weather*, on Bridge Records. Ahmed holds Master's degrees in Piano Performance and Choral Conducting from Western Michigan University, where he taught before moving to Minnesota, and carried out postgraduate work at the Queen Sofia College of Music in Madrid, Spain. He received a doctorate in Music Conducting at the University of Minnesota, under the mentorship of Kathy Romey. Apart from his work with Border CrossSing, he is co-editor of the Justice Choir Songbook and is Director of Music Ministries at Unity Church – Unitarian in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Interest Sessions

Inviting Young Singers: Creating Skills, Musicianship and Community in Group Singing

Cheryl Meyer, Presenter

Friday, January 13, 9:10-9:55 a.m., Paper Valley Empire Room

Beginning with the first music class, elementary vocal music teachers lay the foundation for group singing at all levels. In a safe environment, choir participation extends and refines skills and nourishes the love of choral singing. Resources and suggestions for choir teacher-conductors and their students will be shared in this session.



Cheryl Meyer was a vocal-general music specialist in Illinois and Wisconsin before retiring from the Appleton Area School District, where she served as a cooperating teacher for pre-service educators, and as a mentor to initial educators. As a teacher-conductor with the Lawrence Community Girl Choir Program, she led various choirs with singers from third through eighth grade. Cheryl has also conducted vocal and handbell choirs at several Fox Valley churches. A recipient of the WCDA Morris D. Hayes award, she has served WCDA as a Singing in Wisconsin Youth Choir conductor, Children's Repertoire and Resources Chair, co-chair of the state convention Youth Choir, and presented sessions and choirs at state conventions and other WCDA events.

Singing Through Change: Female Voice in Midlife

Joanne Bozeman, Presenter

Friday, January 13, 11:30 a.m. -12:15 p.m., Paper Valley Empire Room

Of the many millions of people who sing with community and church choirs, well over half are women. Most of these women, in midlife, will encounter the menopause transition, a multi-year process that in a number of singers causes voice changes. This session will help choral directors understand the psycho-social context of midlife, the shifting hormonal landscape of the menopause transition, and its potential effects on the singing voice. Choral singing offers women the opportunity to maintain vocal comfort and fitness through and beyond midlife, when choral conductors support them in adapting to changing voice conditions.



A graduate of the University of Arizona, **Joanne Bozeman** has been a singing teacher for 48 years. For 26 of these years, she was a faculty member at Lawrence University's Conservatory of Music, where she taught singing and a number of voice and music education courses. In addition to her career as a voice teacher, Joanne was an actively performing soprano as well as a coach with the Lawrence Community Music School Girl Choir. Inspired by her long-standing interest in voice health and the relationship of hormones with voice throughout the female lifespan, Joanne co-authored the book, *Singing Through Change: Women's Voices in Midlife, Menopause, and Beyond*, released in 2020.

She is a frequent presenter on the subject of female voice and hormones for many organizations including the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS), the International Congress of Voice Teachers, the British Voice Association, and the Pan American Vocology Association. Retired from academia and professional singing, Joanne continues to be engaged with the voice community as a teacher and researcher.

Interest Sessions

Into the Muddle: Opening the High School Choir Room

Luke Hrovat-Staedter, Madison East High School

Friday, January 13, 3:40-4:30 p.m., St. Mary's Community Room

This session is for choral educators interested in alternative options to the traditional concert cycle-style of large ensemble classrooms. This presentation details a high school choir program's excursion into participatory action research, activism, and student voice in the secondary choir classroom. We will talk through the implementation of musical project-based action research, the lessons learned, and the implications for the choral space moving forward.



Luke Hrovat-Staedter has spent 9 years teaching secondary music in Madison, WI where he currently teaches choir, hip hop studies, and piano at Madison East High School. Additionally, he has experience as a vocalist and keyboardist in a variety of different musical worlds. Luke received both of his degrees from UW-Madison (BM & MM in Music Education) where he developed special interest in the expanding possibilities both within and in-addition-to the traditional Big 3 school music ensembles, specifically around the pedagogical lenses of Hip Hop Pedagogy and Youth Participatory Action Research.

Performance Practice: A Linguistic Approach to Dialect for African American Spirituals

Dr. Felicia Barber, Yale University

Saturday, January 14, 8:35-9:30 a.m., Lawrence University Harper Hall

The interpretation of a piece of music is dependent on a number of factors, which may include its melody, harmony, and rhythm. However, in the area of choral music, it is the text that serves as a defining characteristic. The pronunciation and interpretation of a text is key to understanding its meaning, as well as cultural interpretation. One of the most persistent problems found in the performance practice of African American Spirituals is its dialect. This presentation will review the history of the languages and dialects that developed out of the African Diaspora; discover how to apply the chief phonological features found; and instruct teachers on how to employ these findings, using the International Phonetic Alphabet, to enhance the performance practice of spirituals.



At the Yale School of Music and Yale Institute of Sacred Music, **Felicia Barber** serves as Associate Professor, Adjunct, of Choral Conducting and conducts the Yale Camerata. In addition to teaching graduate-level choral conductors and aspiring undergraduate conductors, Barber is developing a new initiative designed to prepare Yale students to work with young musicians on choral music in school and church settings.

Dr. Barber's research interests include effective teaching strategies, fostering classroom diversity and incorporating equity and justice initiatives in choral curricula, and the linguistic performance practice of

African American spirituals, has contributed to such periodicals as the American Choral Directors Association's Choral Journal and is the author of *A New Perspective for the Use of Dialect in African American Spirituals: History, Context, and Linguistics* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2021). She has given clinics and presentations on topics related to diversity in choral music and implicit bias in classical music, among other areas, at institutions across the United States, and in 2021 delivered a lecture at Yale titled "Performance Practice: A Linguistic Approach to Dialect Found in Spirituals."

Dr. Barber holds a B.M. in Vocal Performance from Oral Roberts University, an M.M. in Music Education from Mansfield University, and a Ph.D. in Choral Music Education and Choral Conducting from The Florida State University.

HEADLINER

Border CrosSing

Border CrosSing

Saturday, January 14, 9:40-10:40 a.m., Lawrence University Harper Hall

Founded in 2017, **Border CrosSing** envisions a fundamental change in classical music culture, so that every concert, every audience, and the artists on stage truly reflect the cultural reality in which we live. Our work provides opportunities for people from different communities to understand each other in new ways through our multi-lingual Puentes concert series, educational programs in schools, and collaborations with Minnesota's most important cultural organizations, including The Schubert Club and Minnesota Orchestra.



Ahmed Fernando Anzaldúa El Samkary is a Mexican conductor and pianist of Egyptian descent. Early in his career, he was awarded the first prize at the Maria Clara Cullel International Piano Competition. He's since then avoided participating in competitions in favor of championing the works of new composers and exploring his musical heritage. Ahmed is a recognized authority in Latin American and Spanish music, particularly the compositions of Federico Mompou and Miguel Bernal Jiménez. He regularly collaborates with composers to premiere new works, including Helmut Lachenmann, Paul Lansky, and Arturo Marquez. His most recent recordings include *Carteles*, recorded for FMM, and *Contemplating Weather*, on Bridge Records. Ahmed holds Master's degrees in Piano Performance and Choral Conducting from Western Michigan University, where he taught before moving to Minnesota, and carried out postgraduate work at the Queen Sofia College of Music in Madrid, Spain. He received a doctorate in Music Conducting at the University of Minnesota, under the mentorship of Kathy Romey. Apart from his work with Border CrosSing, he is co-editor of the Justice Choir Songbook and is Director of Music Ministries at Unity Church – Unitarian in St. Paul, Minnesota.

CONFERENCE VENUES

Hilton Appleton Paper Valley Hotel ([333 W. College Ave, Appleton, WI 54911](#))

St. Mary's Catholic Church ([312 S. State Street, Appleton, WI 54911](#))

Lawrence University Music-Drama Center (Chapel / Harper Hall)

([510 E. College Ave, Appleton, WI 54911](#))

Lawrence University Warch Campus Center

([711 E. Boldt Way, Appleton, WI 54911](#))

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Registration

Friday, January 14: 8:00 AM

Saturday, January 15: 8:00 AM

Paper Valley | Near the Pool Dome
Lawrence University Conservatory |
Hallway near 163

Thursday, January 12

5:00-7:00 PM Conducting Competition

6:30-9:30 PM WCDA Board Meeting

Appleton West High School

Paper Valley Hickory Room

Friday, January 13

8:00 AM Registration Opens

9:00-9:10 Welcome & **All-Conference Sing #1**

Paper Valley | Near the Pool Dome

Paper Valley | Lawrence Room

[Link to Interest Session Descriptions](#)

9:10-9:55 Interest Session

Inviting Young Singers: Creating Skills, Musicianship and Community in Group Singing

Cheryl Meyer, Presenter

Paper Valley | Lawrence Room

9:55-10:00 **All Conference Sing #2**

Paper Valley | Lawrence Room

10:15-11:15 Reading Session sponsored by Heid Music

Paper Valley | Lawrence Room

11:30-12:15 Interest Session

Singing Through Change: Female Voice in Midlife

Joanne Bozeman, Presenter

Paper Valley | Lawrence Room

12:15-12:20 **All Conference Sing #3**

Paper Valley | Lawrence Room

12:30-1:30

All are encouraged to bring a bag lunch with them on Friday so that we can spend this meal-time connecting with one another and reflecting on repertoire and resources with our colleagues.

Lunch Paper Valley | Salon B

1:30 Travel to St. Mary's Catholic Church

2:00-2:05 **All Conference Sing #4**

St. Mary's | Sanctuary

2:05-3:30 Concert Session #1

Oshkosh North Chorale | Bridget Duffy-Ulrich, Director

Appleton North HS Varsity Bass Choir | Luke Aumann, Director

Milwaukee High School of the Arts | Raymond Roberts, Director

St. Mary's | Sanctuary

3:40-4:30 Interest Session

Into the Muddle: Opening the High School Choir Room

Luke Hrovat-Staedler, Presenter

St. Mary's | Community Room

4:45-5:15 Concert Session #2

Collegiate All-State Choir Performance | Dr. Felicia Barber, Conductor

St. Mary's | Sanctuary

5:15-5:20 **All Conference Sing #5**

St. Mary's | Sanctuary

5:20-7:45 Dinner (on own) and travel to Lawrence Chapel

There is parking available in lots behind and next to the Chapel as well as on the street.

7:45-8:00 WCDA Welcome and Announcements

Lawrence | Chapel

8:00-10:00 Headline Performance – Border CrosSing

Lawrence | Chapel

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 14

8:00AM Children's All-State Choir Registration & Rehearsals
St. Mary's | Sanctuary

8:00AM WCDA Saturday registration Lawrence University Conservatory
Hallway near 163

8:30-8:35 *All Conference Sing #6* Lawrence | Harper Hall

[Link to Interest Session Descriptions](#)

8:35-9:30 Interest Session Lawrence | Harper Hall
Performance Practice: A Linguistic Approach to Dialect for African American Spirituals
Dr. Felicia Barber, Yale University

9:30-9:35 *All Conference Sing #7* Lawrence | Harper Hall

9:40-10:40 Interest Session Lawrence | Harper Hall
Border CrossSing

10:50-12:10 Concert Session #3 Lawrence | Chapel
Door County Show Choir | Bonita L. Weydt, Director
Milwaukee Choristers | James B. Kinchen Jr., Director
UW-Eau Claire Women's Concert Chorale | Frank Watkins, Director

12:30-2:00 WCDA Luncheon Lawrence Warch Center | Somerset Room
WCDA State Meeting and Report
Awards
All Conference Sing #8

2:00-2:30 Concert Session #4 Lawrence Warch Center | Somerset Room
All-State Vocal Jazz Performance | Kerry Marsh, Conductor

2:30-2:45 Conference Wrap Up Lawrence Warch Center | Somerset Room

3:30 House Opens Lawrence | Chapel

4:00-6:30 *Wisconsin Choral Directors Association All-State Choir Concerts*

4:00-4:30 – High School Treble Clef All-State Choir
Mollie Stone, Conductor

4:40-5:10 – Middle Level All-State Choir
G. Phillip Shoultz, III, Conductor

5:20-5:50 – High School All-State Bass Clef Choir
Lauren Fowler-Calisto, Conductor

6:00-6:30 – Children's All-State Choir
Diane Skrobis, Conductor



The poster features a black background with a large white circle in the center. Inside the circle is a red flame-like graphic and the word "Refresh!" in a script font. Below the circle, the words "RELEASE • REKINDLE • REJUVENATE" are written in a small, sans-serif font. The circle is surrounded by a dense ring of red musical notes. In the top right corner, there is a small logo for the Wisconsin Choral Directors Association (WCDA). The text "Summer Conference" is written in a large, white, serif font. Below it, "Carroll University, Waukesha WI" and "July 18th-20th, 2023" are written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. A red banner at the bottom contains the text "Relevant Topics Unity in Vision Practical Collaboration" in white. Below the banner, the registration information is listed in white text: "Registration Opens: January 2nd", "www.wischoral.org", "Early Bird Registration:", "\$85.00 No Housing Option", and "\$185.00 With Housing Option". At the very bottom, a small red banner contains the text "Directors who register a student in the Next Direction program will receive \$15.00 off of their Refresh! registration (up to 5 students)".

Refresh!
RELEASE • REKINDLE • REJUVENATE

WISCONSIN
Choral Directors
ASSOCIATION

Summer Conference
Carroll University, Waukesha WI
July 18th-20th, 2023

Relevant Topics Unity in Vision Practical Collaboration

Registration Opens: January 2nd
www.wischoral.org
Early Bird Registration:
\$85.00 No Housing Option
\$185.00 With Housing Option

Directors who register a student in the Next Direction program will receive \$15.00 off of their Refresh! registration (up to 5 students)

Mark your calendars for **July 18th- 20th** as our Refresh! portion of our 2023 Summer Conference is coming back to Carroll University in Waukesha, WI!

This year we are looking forward to:

- A casual and productive professional development experience rooted in collaboration, community, and connection with your colleagues from around Wisconsin (and beyond).
- Learning and growing from **Dr. Derrick Fox** from the University of Nebraska-Omaha, who will be the keynote speaker this summer.
- A ***NEW*** housing option that allows attendees to stay onsite during the Refresh! portion of the conference.
- A new opportunity to **reduce the cost of attendance**: any director that has a student register for the Next Direction portion of the conference will receive \$15.00 off of their registration for each student (up to 5 students)

Cost:

Early Bird Registration Regular Registration

\$85.00 (non-housing option) \$100.00 (non-housing option)

\$185.00 (housing option) \$200.00 (housing option)

***Registration opens January 2nd and can be done at**
www.wischoral.org

We are currently seeking **summer conference presenters**. If you or a colleague might be interested in sharing your expertise at Refresh! this summer, please complete this very short [NOMINATION FORM](#) and let us know!

Any questions may be directed to refresh@wischoral.org.

THE VOICE



2023 Winter Conference Issue

NextDirection

Inspiring Choral Leadership

COME AND BE ENCOURAGED, INFORMED, and INSPIRED!

- » Dynamic rehearsals and discussions as a choral leader
- » Understanding the conductor's approach to rehearsal
- » Motivating discussions on the Power of Music
- » Hands-on experience with the influence of conducting gestures
- » Leadership in the choral environment
- » Collaborate with a master teacher-conductor
- » Network with other enthusiastic choir students
- » Experience great choral literature

COLLEGIATE CONFERENCE
JULY 17-21, 2023

HIGH SCHOOL CONFERENCE
JULY 19-21, 2023

Registration Deadline:
March 30, 2023

First year teachers are welcome to join the Collegiate Conference!

Registration and more information:
www.wischoral.org/NextDirection



Join us in Waukesha, WI
on the campus of

CARROLL
UNIVERSITY



WISCONSIN CHORAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION

FEATURED CONDUCTOR



DR. DERRICK FOX
UNIVERSITY OF
NEBRASKA-OMAHA

**Become part of the
FUTURE of choral music
and choral leadership!**

**College students and
high school students
who demonstrate
leadership skills should
APPLY NOW!**

**Scholarships
available!
Check with your
state ACDA
chapter to see if
your state offers
a scholarship for
this event.**

AMERICAN
CHORAL
DIRECTORS
ASSOCIATION

