



VOICE of WCDA



**Click Here to
Register Now
for WCDA State
Convention**

Upcoming Dates and Deadlines

- **December 15, 2015**
Last day for Convention
Hotel Reservations on the
Group Rate
- **January 7, 2016**
Deadline for Online
Convention Registration
- **January 14, 2016**
Board Meeting
- **January 15-16, 2016**
State Convention
- **January 16, 2016**
All-State Concert

Visit the Website

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Dennis Gephart, conductor
Voices of Eterna, Milwaukee Children's Choir
Marco Melendez, conductor
Sixth Grade Choir, Bay Lane Middle School, Muskego
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Waunakee, WI 53697
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Letter from the Convention Chair

Joy Paffenroth

Dear WCDA Members,

It is with great pleasure that I invite you to Appleton for the 2016 WCDA State Convention – “55 Years of WCDA – Honoring the Past, Celebrating the Future!” This event is one of my favorite times of the year. As we join together to share ideas, hear great performances and socialize with each other, it is the perfect way to rejuvenate in the midst of our work year. I am so excited by the theme of this year’s convention as it will highlight and bring to life our organization’s history and look to improve how we serve our membership and the choral art.

Our headlining choir for 2016 is Vertical Voices! This energetic and entertaining ensemble will be the pinnacle performance of what is sure to be an eclectic concert session on Friday night in the Memorial Chapel on the campus Lawrence University I’m positive it will inspire all in attendance! You’ll also want to be sure to attend their interest session on Saturday morning in the Warch Center at Lawrence University!

In addition to our headlining choir, we welcome seven auditioned choirs from all over the state. These choirs represent middle school, high school, children, vocal jazz and church ensembles. Their performances will take place at St. Mary’s Catholic Church and the Chapel at Lawrence.

Our offering of interest sessions is sure to educate and facilitate collaboration throughout the convention. We begin Friday morning with a mini-immersion session that will help choral directors at all levels understand “Choral Programs from the Inside Out”. This panel discussion will be like our WCDA Facebook discussion group happening live and in person! Reading sessions will take place Friday afternoon and continue the theme of “Choral Repertoire Every Singer Should Know” from Refresh 2015. Each session will be presented twice so all participants can attend both sessions! On Saturday afternoon, all attendees will have a chance to learn more and share ideas about our annual WCDA project offerings – Refresh!, NextDirection and Singing in Wisconsin! If you’ve never participated in one of these events or if you go every year, there is something here for you!

Included in your registration is the annual WCDA Awards Luncheon. You will not want to miss this opportunity to celebrate the successes and contributions of our members. In a volunteer organization such as ours, it is important that we recognize all of the people who have given so much to our choral community.

All-State Choirs

Also included in your registration is a ticket to see the WCDA All-State Choirs perform. The Collegiate Choir will perform on Friday afternoon at St. Mary’s Catholic Church. Returning this year is the HS Vocal Jazz Ensemble in a performance following the Awards Luncheon in the stunning Somerset Room of the Warch Campus Center at Lawrence University. Our convention will then be capped off with the culminating concert of the all-state HS Men, HS Women, Middle School and Children’s Choirs in the Lawrence Memorial Chapel. With conductors like Axel Theimer, Jennifer Parker, Brett Robison, Gregory Douma, Reed Criddle and Beth Holmes, we are surely in for spectacular performances! Special thanks go out to our all-state chair Kathy Alan and all of the chairs of the individual choirs.

I look forward to convention every year to take time to focus on the art that we love and to spend time with people just like me who care so passionately about choral music and choral musicians. I sincerely hope you will feel the same as we Celebrate 55 Years of





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Letter from the Editor

Zack Durlam

Dear WCDA Members,

As difficult as it is for many of us to get time away, I encourage all of you to do whatever it takes to make the time to attend the 2016 WCDA convention in Appleton on January 15-16! Each of you is a valuable member of our Wisconsin choral community, and this is a time for us all to come together to celebrate our craft, grow as choral leaders, draw inspiration from our peers, and enjoy the company of our WCDA friends from around the state. Here are my top four reasons you should attend:



4. The performances: Most of the choral music I experience in my daily life requires me to be in charge, and I relish the opportunity to experience great choral music in a setting where I can simply listen and revel in the beauty of the performance. The performing groups at this year's convention range from children to adults – from school choirs to community and church groups. Listening to these outstanding ensembles is soul-cleansing and reconnects us all with our love of choral music.

3. The interest sessions: From interest sessions to panel discussions to reading sessions, all of us can learn practical information and discover excellent repertoire that we can use to enrich the experiences of our own singers.

2. The All-State choirs: Take advantage of the opportunity to watch not only the performances but the rehearsals. Watching a top-notch conductor work is an outstanding way to reflect on our own rehearsal processes and perhaps even steal some great ideas to take back to our own ensembles.

1. The community: Often the most memorable moments from conventions come between the performances and interest sessions in conversations with colleagues from around the state. Whether sitting in the lobby and conversing, sharing a meal together, gathering during designated social times, or just chatting while walking from one session to the next or waiting in line for the bus, these opportunities to connect and share with new and old friends from around the state are the lifeblood of convention. They remind us that we are not alone – we are all part of a huge community of talented individuals from around the state who share a passion for choral music and who truly care for one another. If you've never attended a state convention, I guarantee you're in for a real treat!

See you in Appleton!



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Radisson Paper Valley Hotel

HOTEL BOOKINGS - To make your reservation at the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel, call 1-800-395-7046 and be sure to ask for the WCDA group rate. There are limited rooms available so book your room early. Rooms must be booked no later than December 15, 2015 to receive the discounted rate.



Congratulations

Congratulations to our WCDA members who will be presenting interest sessions at the 2016 NCACDA Division Convention in Sioux Falls:

Raymond Roberts, Milwaukee High School of the Arts – “Establishing Excellence in the Urban Choral Classroom: The Milwaukee High School of the Arts Story” and “Is There a Correlation Between a Child’s Zip Code and the Quality of Their Education? Should There Be?”

Richard Robbins, UW-Superior – “Analyze This! Empowering Your Choir to Become Critical, Creative Musicians”

Zachary Durlam, UW-Milwaukee – “Four Scores and Seven Minutes to Go: Score Study for the Time-Challenged Choral Conductor”



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Convention Schedule

Friday, January 15

Paper Valley Hotel

8:00 – Registration begins (Lobby)

9:30-11:30 – INTEREST SESSION: “Choral Programs from the Inside Out”
PVH - Salon D

9:30 Panel presentation

10:30 Breakout sessions for questions/answers

11:30-1:00 – Lunch on own (Past presidents luncheon hosted by Matt Wanner—
located at the Paper Valley Hotel)

St. Mary’s Church

1:00-1:30 – Welcome and General Assembly

1:30-2:00 – PERFORMANCE: Les Chevaliers, Oak Creek High School

2:00-2:30 – PERFORMANCE: Concert Choir, Middleton High School

2:30-3:00 – PERFORMANCE: Collegiate All-State Choir

3:15-4:15 - INTEREST SESSION: “Connecting to Collegians,” Zachary Moore

3:15-4:15 – SIMULTANEOUS READING SESSIONS: “Repertoire Every
Choral Singer Should Know”

Unison to 3 part

4-part and more

4:30-5:30 – SIMULTANEOUS READING SESSIONS: “Repertoire Every
Choral Singer Should Know”

Unison to 3 part

4-part and more

5:30-7:00 – Dinner on Own

6:30-7:00 – Shuttle to Lawrence Chapel from PVH (meet at the side entrance)

Lawrence University Chapel

7:15-7:45 – PERFORMANCE: Limited Edition, Port Washington High School

7:45-8:15 – PERFORMANCE: Voices of Eterna, Milwaukee Children’s Choir

8:30-9:30 – PERFORMANCE: Vertical Voices

9:45 – Shuttle back to PVH

10:00 – Social Gathering at Paper Valley Hotel



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Convention Schedule

Saturday, January 16 – All at Lawrence University

8:00 – Registration opens at Paper Valley Hotel lobby

8:00-9:00 – shuttles to Warch from Paper Valley Hotel running every 15 minutes

Warch Center

9:00-10:15 – INTEREST SESSION: Vertical Voices Workshop (Esch-Hurvis)

Chapel

10:30-11:00 – PERFORMANCE: Sixth Grade Choir, Bay Lane Middle School

11:00-11:30 – PERFORMANCE: Sanctuary Choir, First Congregational UCC

Warch Center

11:45-12:15 – PERFORMANCE: Vocal Jazz Ensemble, UW-Marathon County
(Somerset Room)

12:15-1:30 – Luncheon/Awards (Somerset Room)

1:45-2:15 – PERFORMANCE: Vocal Jazz All-State (Somerset Room)

2:30-3:30 – INTEREST SESSIONS: WCDA Project Sessions (Pusey, Esch-
Hurvis, Cinema)

Chapel

4:00-4:30 – PERFORMANCE: All-State concert 1 (Middle)

4:40-5:10 – PERFORMANCE: All-state concert 2 (Women)

5:20-5:50 – PERFORMANCE: All-state concert 3 (Children)

6:00-6:30 – PERFORMANCE: All-state concert 4 (Men)



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Headliner Choir—Vertical Voices

Vertical Voices' debut cd "Fourward" says it all. With their innovative and adventurous approach to jazz, these four accomplished vocalists, arrangers and educators have combined forces and are taking the vocal jazz world by storm.

After releasing their critically acclaimed album "Vertical Voices: The Music of Maria Schneider" in 2010, Julia Dollison (soprano) and Kerry Marsh (tenor) asked Jennifer Barnes (alto) and Greg Jasperse (bass) to form a vocal quartet that first focused primarily on performing Schneider's music live. They soon realized however, that they shared something much deeper. They were bound by a shared love for contemporary harmonies, extreme musical challenges and the experience of making music together. Before long the group expanded their repertoire to include their original compositions as well as arrangements of music by Pat Metheny, the Yellowjackets, Nando Lauria, Imogen Heap and other contemporary jazz and pop influences.

Vertical Voices are all four musicians first. With the combination of their wordless vocals, expansive range and prolific improvisation they venture into artistic territory usually reserved for instrumentalists.

Vertical Voices has performed at many major festivals throughout the States and Canada. In January they headlined the closing concert of the 2014 Jazz Education Network conference in Dallas. Most recently they launched their first annual Vertical Voices Vocal Jazz Festival in Rochelle, Illinois.

Hailing from three legendary collegiate vocal jazz programs (Western Michigan University, University of Miami and University of North Texas) they now spend their non-Vertical time living out their commitment to vocal jazz education. Kerry and Julia teach at the University of Northern Colorado; Jennifer heads the vocal jazz program at the University of North Texas; and Greg heads the vocal jazz program at Western Michigan University.





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Les Chevaliers, Oak Creek High School

Gillian Pacetti and Sam Wulterkens, conductors

O Frodens Virga
Ave Maria
From a River's Edge
Witch's Hex
Full Circle

Hildegard von Bingen (Treble Clef Music Press)
Franz Biebl (Hinshaw Music)
Andrea Ramsey (Boosey & Hawkes)
Andrew Steffen (Manuscript – World Premier)
Stephen Hatfield (Boosey & Hawkes)

Les Chevaliers is one of three curricular choirs at Oak Creek High School. The ensemble is made up of 92 young women in grades 10-12. Oak Creek also offers a 115-voice entry-level mixed ensemble, a 72-voice advanced mixed ensemble, and three after-school ensembles that focus on contemporary a cappella and show choir. Les Chevaliers enjoys the challenge of singing choral pieces that require diverse sounds in terms of timbre, dynamics, rhythms, and harmonic language. The exploration of choral repertoire is an excellent vehicle for making meaningful connections among members of the ensemble. In 2013, Les Chevaliers was invited to perform as part of the Carthage College invitational concert in Kenosha, and in the spring of 2010, they performed the National Anthem alongside another Oak Creek High School ensemble at Miller Park.



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Les Chevaliers, Oak Creek High School

Gillian Pacetti and Sam Wulterkens, conductors

Gillian Pacetti is currently in her second year as one of the choral directors at Oak Creek High School and Oak Creek East Middle School. Prior to teaching in Oak Creek, she taught middle school and high school choir for two years in the Black River Falls School District where she directed four curricular choirs, two extra-curricular a cappella groups,

and a barbershop quartet. She was also the music director for the musicals, and she coordinated a music department trip to New York City. In the spring of 2015, Gillian received a Tommy nomination for Outstanding Musical Direction for Oak Creek's production of "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee." Gillian received her Bachelors of Music Education from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. She enjoys traveling, spending time with loved ones, and pretending she's a better cook than her father.



Sam Wulterkens is currently in his tenth year of teaching at Oak Creek High School. During his time at Oak Creek, Mr. Wulterkens has seen the enrollment of the choir program grow from 104 to 280 singers. Prior to Oak Creek, he spent one year teaching high school choir, a fine art survey class, adaptive music, and assisting with band and orchestra in Mequon, WI, and two years teaching high school and middle school choir in Bay City, MI. Sam earned his Bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and has a Master's degree in music education from Central Michigan University. Sam has worked as a clinician for honors choirs and church ensembles, and in 2012, he served as the chairperson for the WCDA All-State Women. He enjoys working with young people and helping them to become better people through the study of music. While away from work, Sam spends his time trying to keep up with his wife and children: Bella (10), Gianna (8), Joseph (5), and Henry (5).





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Concert Choir, Middleton High School

Thomas Mielke, conductor

Haec Dies
Lullaby
Sing We and Chant It

Alas! What Hope of Speeding

Wangol

Prayer
Unclouded Day

William Byrd (Arista Edition AE223)
Daniel Elder (GIA Publications G-8368)
Thomas Morley (G. Schirmer/Hal Leonard
HL 50310800)

George Kirbye, ed. William Hall (National Music
Publishers)

Traditional Haitian, arr. Sten Kallman (Walton Music
HL00118887)

Morten Lauridsen (Peer Music)
Arr. Shawn Kirchner (Boosey & Hawkes 48021256)

The Middleton High School Concert Choir is a fifty-two member ensemble of juniors and seniors. The choir has appeared on multiple occasions at the Wisconsin Music Educators National Conference and previous conventions of the Wisconsin Choral Directors Association. Recently the choir completed their annual appearance at guests of the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra in the Holiday Pops Concert. Over the years, as a part of this concert, the choir has sung with guests including Aaron Thompson, Tommy Moore Scott and the Canadian Brass. Recent concert tour destinations have included Washington D.C. and New York. In January of 2015, the choir traveled to London where they joined the International Choral Festival at Westminster Central Hall and were thrilled to sing at Christ Church at Oxford and Saint John Smith Square.





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Concert Choir, Middleton High School

Thomas Mielke, conductor

Thomas Mielke is in his twenty-second year as music teacher at Middleton High School. His undergraduate and graduate work was done at the Universities of Wisconsin at Madison and Whitewater, respectively. Mr. Mielke teaches three curricular choirs and three co-curricular choirs that include a Madrigal Ensemble, a show choir, and a collegiate-style a cappella group. Mr. Mielke is the musical director and producer of the annual all school Musical. In November, Middleton High School's production of *The Twenty Fifth Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* was the feature performance at the Wisconsin State Theater Festival. "Nonsemble" classes taught by Mr. Mielke include Garage Band- Rock School 101 and a Pop Singer/Songwriter class. Mr. Mielke held similar positions at Oregon and Sparta High Schools in Wisconsin.





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Limited Edition, Port Washington HS

Dennis Gephart, conductor

Founded to provide advanced music students with additional opportunities to perform tight a cappella harmonies in a small group setting, “Limited Edition” is talented mixed ensemble of young men and women from the Port Washington / Saukville School District now in its fourteenth year. The name comes from the fact that this group is only an ensemble for a “limited” time (one full school year). After that, all spots within the group are re-auditioned and an entirely new group is formed. Dividing their time equally throughout the year between a Madrigal Ensemble and an a cappella Vocal Jazz Ensemble, this group of men and women perform an eclectic variety of music. The group also spends part of their rehearsal each week working with local special needs students. What makes this group unique is the degree of student ownership. While they do receive plenty of guidance, they have a large say in their band. They choose music, arrange music, plan gigs, write scripts, and learn along the way. This “working band” business format is a tool used to educate the members as musicians and as young adults. Since their inception, the group has performed all over the state of Wisconsin for everything from community organizations to large company performances. In 2010 the group was named Midwest champions in the International Championships of High School A Cappella. In that same year they also competed and won the ICHSA National Championship in New York City. Since that time they have won the ICHSA Midwest Championship in 2012, 2013 and 2014 and have won best soloist, best vocal percussionist, and best arrangement multiple times as well. You can also hear them on the best of High School A Cappella CDs for 2010 and 2012 and 2015.





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Limited Edition, Port Washington HS

Dennis Gephart, conductor

Dennis Gephart is in his eleventh year as Director of Choral Activities and department head at Port Washington High School where he directs four curricular and three extracurricular choral groups. He also mentors two student-run extracurricular vocal ensembles and is the vocal director for the high school musicals.

In addition to Mr. Gephart's school responsibilities, he helped develop the Port Washington Saukville Arts Council where he has served as president from 2008-2011. He also has been the WCDA State Honors Vocal Jazz Assistant director from 2007-2011 and has helped teach the Wisconsin Vocal Jazz institute for the past five years.

He holds a bachelors of music from UW Stevens Point and a Masters in Administrative Leadership from Marian University in Fond du Lac WI. Vocal groups under the direction of Mr. Gephart have received numerous superior ratings locally, nationally and internationally.

Mr. Gephart holds professional memberships in Wisconsin State Music Educators Association, National Association for Music Educators, and American Choral Directors Association. In his free time he enjoys being outdoors and is an active hunters education instructor, mentor hunting instructor, and board member for the Ozaukee/ Washington Pheasants Forever chapter.



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Voices of Eterna, Milwaukee Children's Choir

Marco Melendez, conductor

Adiemus from Songs of Sanctuary
Psalm 13

Pushing Up the Sky
South African Suite
Tshotsholoza
Siyahamba
Sivela Kwazulu
Farewell Song

Stars and Stars and Stripes Forever Forever

John Philip Sousa, arr. John Kuzm (Yelton Rhodes Music Publishers, YR5401V3)

Karl Jenkins (Boosey & Hawkes 48011743)
Johannes Brahms (Carus-Verlag CV
40.182/03)

Clyde Tipton (Unpublished)
(Unpublished)

arr. Marco A. Melendez

arr. Anders Nyberg

arr. E. Van Eyck

Traditional

Known for their musical sophistication and angelic voices, VOICES OF ETERNA is the principal performing ensemble of Milwaukee Children's Choir and Southeastern Wisconsin's premier youth choir. Throughout the past several seasons, ETERNA has collaborated with other ensembles from throughout the country including the American Boychoir, Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, and Milwaukee Ballet. The Choir has also been featured at the annual Milwaukee Choral Conference under the direction of renowned conductors Anton Armstrong, Henry Leck, and Rollo Dilworth. Under the direction of Artistic Director Marco Antonio Melendez, ETERNA has toured throughout the United States including an East Coast tour which culminated in the choir's performance in New York City's Carnegie Hall.

Established in 1994, Milwaukee Children's Choir has been providing children with exceptional choral music education and performance experiences unmatched by any program in the area. As an audition-based, advanced children's choral music program, Milwaukee Children's Choir maintains six levels of choral education: Songbirds, Prelude, Boychoir/Girlchoirs, Resident Choirs, ETERNA, and Milwaukee Youth Chorale. Offering rehearsal locations throughout the Greater Milwaukee area, Milwaukee Children's Choir is able to incorporate children from throughout the whole of Southeastern Wisconsin. Milwaukee Children's Choir also provides music education and choral performances opportunities to three schools in the City of Milwaukee. This program, entitled Harmony, furthers the mission of Milwaukee Children's Choir by offering the choir's artistic and educational services to Milwaukee area schools.





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Voices of Eterna, Milwaukee Children's Choir

Marco Melendez, conductor

Marco Antonio Melendez began his musical career as a member of the world-renowned American Boychoir where he performed in Carnegie Hall and Avery Fisher Hall and with renowned musical figures James Litton, Joseph Flummerfelt, Yo-Yo Ma, Andre Previn, Wynton Marsalis, and Kurt Masur. As a conductor, educator, and sacred musician, Melendez has led choirs, taught seminars, and served as a guest artist for churches and music programs throughout the country.

At age fifteen, he was named the music director of the San Angelo Singing Boys of San Angelo, Texas. He has been music director of churches throughout Texas, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and California. Melendez also served as Adjunct Professor of Music at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Now in his fourth season as Artistic Director of Milwaukee Children's Choir, Melendez has prepared his choirs for performances with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, the Milwaukee Ballet, American Boychoir, and for several concert tours throughout the United States. He is also the founder of the Milwaukee Choral Conference, a program designed to provide conversations between school, religious, and community chorus leaders in order to explore solutions for promoting and preserving the choral arts.

Melendez has served as a clinician for choral festivals and honor choirs in Wisconsin, Virginia, and Florida. He has also led workshops at WCDA and NCACDA conventions. Recognized as a leader in the field of the adolescent male's expanding voice, Melendez serves as the Repertoire and Standards Chair for Boychoirs in the North Central Division of ACDA. Melendez attended Westminster Choir College of Rider University in Princeton, New Jersey where he received a bachelor of music in sacred music. Currently, he is a candidate for the master of music in vocal pedagogy at Holy Names University.





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Sixth Grade Choir, Bay Lane Middle School

Sarah Milton, conductor

The Tailor of Gloucester
The Swing
Fireflies (Hotaru Koi)

The Star
Appalachian Suite II

Arr. Cyndee Giebler (Colla Voce)
Mary Lynn Lightfoot (Heritage Music)
Arr. Judith Herrington and Sara Glick (Pavane
Publishing)
Charles Collins (Boosey & Hawkes)
Arr. Christine Jordanoff (Boosey & Hawkes)

The Bay Lane Sixth Grade Choir is a mixed non-auditioned group that meets every other day. The 60 members have the option to participate in band, choir and/or general music. The group performs at three large concerts throughout the school year and just completed their second performance this week. Although the students have only experienced working together as a choir for just under 4 months, they are full of energy and eager to share their choral experiences with their audiences.



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Sixth Grade Choir, Bay Lane Middle School

Sarah Milton, conductor

Sarah Milton is the conductor of the sixth, seventh and eighth grade choirs at Bay Lane Middle School in Muskego, WI where she has taught for the past 19 years. In addition to leading the choirs, Ms. Milton also teaches general music and is the director of the musical and an after school chamber choir made up of 6th, 7th & 8th grade students. Ms. Milton has her Bachelor's degree in Music Education from UW-Oshkosh. She is dedicated to bringing beauty into the world by giving children a quality choral arts experience. Her students have gone on to sing in a fine high school choral program as well as major in music, participate in their community choirs, as well as becoming avid supporters of music in their adult communities.



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Sanctuary Choir, First Congregational UCC

John Albrecht, conductor

How Firm a Foundation
Beatus vir from *Vesperae*, K. 339
Our Father from *Jazz Mass*
Santo
Kyrie from *Mass*
In the Midst of New Dimensions

Pentecost (Commission, 2009)

Arr. Mack Wilberg (Oxford)
W. A. Mozart (Kalmus ed. K 06347)
Ike Sturm (available from composer)
Michael Mendoza (Alliance AMP 0135)
Alexander Johnson
Julian Rush, arr. Jeremy Bankson
(Morning Star MSM-60-6500)
Malcolm Archer (available from composer)

The Sanctuary Choir provides the musical centerpiece for Sunday morning worship during the church program year, September through June. The ensemble sings a widely diverse repertoire, including oratorio choruses, traditional anthems, contemporary works, Gospel music, sacred jazz, commissioned works, and global music. During the Advent and Lent/Easter seasons, the choir performs choral masterworks with orchestra. Recent major works include Mozart's *Vespers*, K. 339, Respighi's *Laud to the Nativity*, Bach's Cantata BWV 61, *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*, and Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols*. The ensemble is comprised primarily of non-auditioned singers with a wide range of musical experience, complemented by our Lawrence University Music Scholars program. This auditioned scholarship program for nine singers, established over sixty years ago, allows gifted students to share their vocal and instrumental talents with our congregation, greatly enriching our worship services. In return, the church provides stipends that help the Scholars pay for their educational expenses. The Sanctuary Choir has sung in cathedrals in England, Scotland, and Wales, and performed at state and regional conventions of ACDA under the direction of former organist/music director Mary Kay Easty. Collaborative projects such as the Ike Sturm *Jazz Mass* with the Ike Sturm Jazz Ensemble in 2013, and the John Rutter *Mass of the Children* with the Appleton Boychoir in 2014 broaden the sound and experience of the ensemble.





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Sanctuary Choir, First Congregational UCC

John Albrecht, conductor

John Albrecht joined the First Congregational staff in 2007, having previously served Presbyterian congregations in Worthington, OH, and Glen Ellyn, IL. He holds degrees from Northwestern University and The University of Iowa and has taught senior high school vocal music in Iowa and Illinois. He has worked extensively with children's choruses and currently conducts the Senior Choir of the Appleton Boychoir.

John's work at First Congregational has included starting and directing a children's choir and youth handbell choir, directing children's musicals and serving as music director for intergenerational musicals, directing the Lawrence University Music Scholars program, directing the Sanctuary Choir in major works with orchestra, completing a Steinway Piano Project, and hosting workshops and concerts with such renowned ensembles as the Vienna Boys Choir and the Millikin University Choir.

As an active member of the American Choral Directors' Association, he has served two terms as the Repertoire and Standards Chair for Music in Worship in the North Central Division. He also holds professional memberships with the Presbyterian Association of Musicians, the American Guild of Organists, and Choristers Guild. John and his wife, Kristy (a German teacher), have a son, Ethan, a college junior.



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Vocal Jazz Ensemble, UW-Marathon County

Timothy Buchholz, conductor

So Danco Samba
Tight

Wings to Fly

London by Night

Me and Julio Down By the Schoolyard

Shed a Little Light Music

Antonio Carlos Jobim, Arr. by Michele Weir

Better Carter, Arr. Matt Falker

Jeremy Fox

Carroll Coates, Arr. Gene Puerling

Paul Simon, Arr. Darmon Meader (Shawnee)

James Taylor, Arr. Ryan Billington

The UWMC Vocal Jazz Ensemble, founded by director Dr. Timothy Buchholz in 2012, is one of two select vocal jazz ensembles at the University of Wisconsin-Marathon County in Wausau, WI. This group of 16 singers performs a wide variety of jazz and popular music and is open to all college students by audition. The UWMC Vocal Jazz Ensemble gives numerous on-campus performances each year at the state-of-the-art UW Center for Civic Engagement Theater on the UWMC campus and hosts the annual UWMC Vocal Jazz Festival each year in April. Additionally, Vocal Jazz Ensemble tours regularly and gives performances throughout central Wisconsin, including exchanges with local high school choirs.





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Vocal Jazz Ensemble, UW-Marathon County

Timothy Buchholz, conductor

Dr. Timothy Buchholz is an Assistant Professor of Music at the University of Wisconsin-Marathon County where he directs the concert choir and two vocal jazz ensembles and teaches classes in ear training and vocal techniques. Originally from Stevens Point, WI, he is a nationally recognized jazz singer, educator, and arranger. As a singer, Buchholz has performed at Carnegie Hall, New York City's Lincoln Center, and has toured internationally in South Africa, Costa Rica, France, Estonia, Latvia, Germany, Austria, and Belgium. He has performed with many notable artists including Bobby McFerrin, Steve Miller, Bruce Hornsby, Patty Austin, Jon Secada, and Dave Grusin.



Buchholz was named "Best Collegiate Jazz Arranger" by Downbeat magazine in both 2006-2007 and 2009-2010, and "Best Collegiate Jazz Singer" in 2005-2006. His arrangements have been published by Sound Music Publications and used throughout the country in high school and college vocal jazz ensembles and for numerous all-state vocal jazz choir events. Buchholz has previously directed ensembles and taught classes at the University of Miami Frost School of Music, Miami Dade College, and California State University at Long Beach. He holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Jazz Vocal Performance from the University of Miami, a Master of Music degree from California State University at Long Beach, and a Bachelor of Music in Jazz Studies from Western Michigan University. Buchholz is currently the WCDA Repertoire and Standards Chair for Vocal Jazz.

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Interest Sessions

“Choral Programs from the Inside Out” Panel Session

Friday, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Join us for a panel discussion that will touch on all aspects of choral programs at all levels including elementary, middle school, small high school, large high school, college, church and community. Expert WCDA members from the field will bring their top 3-5 tips that will address such topics as recruiting, warm-ups, travel, programming, advocacy, auditioning, work/life balance and assessment. There will also be a time for audience questions. It's like the WCDA Facebook discussion group live and in person!

“Connecting to Collegians” Interest Session, Zachary Moore

Friday, 3:15-4:15 p.m.

Please join Zachary Moore, WCDA Collegiate and Early Career Representative, for a look at what WCDA has to offer for current college students and those recent graduates just entering the profession. Find out about college chapters, activities, mentoring and “surviving” during this transitional and exciting time!

Reading Sessions

Friday, 3:15-4:15 p.m. and 4:30-5:30 p.m.

This year, reading sessions will be a continuation of the wildly popular “Choral Repertoire Every Singer Should Know” from Refresh 2015! Convention registrants will receive all of the music that is shared at both sessions and both sessions will be held twice. This literature will be appropriate for elementary through lifelong singers! The sessions are divided by voicing – one for Unison through 3-part literature and the other for 4-parts and more.

WCDA Project Sessions

Saturday, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

These sessions provide you a chance to have your voice heard in planning for the next round of WCDA projects! Whether you've participated in them before and have ideas, would like to volunteer, or would like to learn more about a particular event, these sessions are for you. Project chairs and executive board members will be on hand to share information and ideas.



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Ticket Sales

Tickets to the WCDA All-State Choir Concerts go on sale Monday, November 23. All tickets will be sold through the Lawrence University Box Office. Tickets are \$10 each. This year, tickets will be sold to the individual concerts, though one ticket will get you in to multiple performances. If you have children in more than one concert, please purchase tickets for the first concert and plan to stay for the other(s). The box office encourages you to use their website to purchase your tickets - http://www.lawrence.edu/conservatory/box_office. You may also call them at 920-832-6749 (but be aware that with school breaks, someone may not be there) or visit the box office in person the day of the concerts.

Children's Choir

Greg Douma, conductor

Yo Le Canto Todo El Dia
Dance, Love, Sing, Live!
Tutira Mai
Sing to Me
Won't You Sing Along?
Sing

David Brunner (Boosey & Hawkes)
Greg Gilpin (Heritage)
Maori song, arr. Martin (Hal Leonard)
Andrea Ramsey (Santa Barbara)
Daniel Kallman (James Kocian Pub)
Joe Raposo, arr. Zegree (Hal Leonard)



Greg Douma is in his 18th year as a music educator, the last 14 of which having been at Eastview High School in Apple Valley, MN. He is also the co-founder and artistic director of the Allegro Choral Academy, a non-profit music organization serving students in grades 2-9. At Eastview, Douma oversees a program of over 450 students and directs five choirs: Concert Choir, Chamber Singers, Men's Chorale, Lightning Men's Choir and VoiceMale. Mr. Douma also teaches voice lessons and is the director of *BRAVO!*, Eastview's annual musical revue. He also serves as Department Leader for the Music and Dance department at Eastview. Each Fall, Mr. Douma prepares Concert Choir for the Dakota Valley Choral Festival, a

District 196 tradition that sees its four district high school concert choirs combine for the a performance of a major work with a professional orchestra and guest conductor.

Choirs under Mr. Douma's direction have been invited to perform at numerous conferences and events, including the MMEA Mid-Winter Conference (2006 and 2009), ACDA of MN Fall Conference (2010), the Dorian Vocal Festival, the Dorian Choral Invitational, the Divisional Conference of NC-ACDA (2014) and projects with Chanticleer and the Vocalessence Ensemble Singers. In 2005, he was recognized by ACDA of MN as Outstanding Young Choral Director of the Year. Mr. Douma graduated *summa cum laude* with a Bachelor of Arts in music education from Luther College, where we studied under Weston Noble, Timothy Peter, Sandra Peter and David Judisch. He received a Master of Arts in choral conducting from the University of Iowa, where we studied under William Hatcher and Timothy Stalter. He lives in Apple Valley, MN, with his wife, Kari, who is also a choir director, and their three daughters: Ella, Tess and Miri.



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Middle Level Choir

Brett Robison, conductor

Tshotsholoza

Gloria, mvt. 1

The Boy Who Picked Up His Feet to Fly

An Irish Blessing

It Takes a Village

Arr. Jeffery L. Ames (Walton 08501764)

Antonio Vivaldi (cpdl)

Joshua Shank (Santa Barbara sbmp 450)

Dominick DiOrio (Carl Fischer CM9423)

Joan Szymko (Santa Barbara sbmp 331)



Brett Robison is an Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities at Waldorf College in Forest City, Iowa. At Waldorf College, Brett conducts the Waldorf Choir and Schola Cantorum. Brett also teaches conducting, choral methods, choral literature, and is the head of the music education program.

Brett has conducted choirs and orchestras at all levels for the past fifteen years. As a choral conductor, he has also served on the faculty of Upper Iowa University and taught at the University of Arizona, and the University of New Mexico. As a public school music educator for almost ten years, Brett taught in Iowa, Minnesota, and Arizona where his ensembles consistently received superior ratings. Brett has taught general music and choral music to grades K-12. As a church musician, Brett has served congregations throughout the Midwest, New Mexico, and Arizona. Most recently, he served as the Director of Music and Arts Ministries at Paradise Valley United Methodist Church in Paradise Valley, Arizona. Brett co-founded the music nonprofit organization, Scottsdale Musical Arts and serves as the artistic and executive director. His passion for conducting instruments is expressed through conducting the symphonic repertoire as well as choral-orchestral works. Brett created and directed the youth symphony and adult orchestra programs.

Brett's education includes a BA in music education from Luther College, a Master of Music from the University of New Mexico, and a DMA in choral conducting from the University of Arizona (expected completion Spring 2015.) His teachers and mentors include Bruce Chamberlain, Elizabeth Schauer, Bradley Ellingboe, Weston Noble, Timothy Peter, Donald Hamann, and Richard Nace.



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High School Women's Choir

Beth Holmes, conductor

This Indeed Is Music
Sicut Erat From *Magnificat*

Shir Ha-Shirim
There Will Come Soft Rains
Svatba

Andrea Ramsey (Carl Fischer CM9338)
Niccola Porpora/Ralph Hunter (Hal Leonard
00120233)

Yehudi Wyner (Associated Music Publishers)
Kevin Memley (Pavanne P1448)
Hristo Todorov (Vox Bulgarica)



Beth Holmes joined the music faculty of Millikin University in 1991, and currently serves on the Millikin choral staff conducting the Millikin Women and teaching private voice. A choir of 70 select voices, the Millikin Women involve students of every major. They tour regionally, host their own women's choral festival and participate with the Millikin Union of Choirs in the annual Vespers at Millikin as well as in major choral/orchestral works.

Beth is an active guest conductor and adjudicator, having conducted District, All-State and ACDA Convention Honor Choirs throughout the Midwest. Her most recent engagements include the ACDA North Central Division Collegiate Women's Honor Choir as well as All State choirs in Kentucky and Alabama. In April of 2016 she will conduct The National Festival Chorus in Carnegie Hall, New York City.

A graduate of Kansas State University, Beth studied with Rod Walker. She received the Masters Degree in Choral Conducting from Arizona State University, studying with Douglas McEwen. From 1985 to 1991 she served on the faculty at Luther College in Decorah, IA, conducting the Cathedral Choir and the freshman women's choir, Pike Kor. Additionally, she taught a full studio of private voice. While at Millikin, Beth was appointed Artistic and Musical Director of the Millikin University Children & Youth Choir Program. In this role she conducted the Concert Youth Chorale and coordinated a tiered structure of four choirs, six staff/conductors and a system of student interns from the Millikin School of Music. She has been a member of state ACDA boards in Iowa and Illinois, and currently serves as the ACDA Repertoire and Standards Chair for Women's Choir for the Central Division of ACDA.



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High School Men's Choir
Reed Criddle, conductor

Kuimba
O vos omnes
Loch Lomond
Gao Shan Qing
Lambscapes, mvt. 6

Brandon Ulrich (co-premiere)
Tomas Luis de Victoria (public domain)
Jonathan Quick (Cypress CP 1046)
Reed Criddle (Santa Barbara sbmp 1182)
Eric Lane Barnes (ericlanebarnes.com)



Dr. Reed Criddle is Director of Choral Activities at Utah Valley University, where he coordinates a choral program of six choirs and conducts the Chamber Choir, Men's Choir, and community-based Wasatch Chorale. Recipient of the 2013 UVU School of the Arts Faculty Senate Teaching Excellence Award, Dr. Criddle also teaches advanced choral conducting, lyric diction, private voice, and private conducting. UVU choirs under his direction have performed at the National Conference of the National Collegiate Choral Organization and at the Western Division Conference of the American Choral Directors Association.

Dr. Criddle is President of the American Choral Directors Association-Utah and Utah board member for the National Collegiate Choral Organization. His compositions and arrangements are available through earthsongs and Santa Barbara Music Publishing, and his pioneering 2006 translation of the third-century Chinese musical treatise by philosopher Ruan Ji is published by Asian Music (University of Texas Press). Recent invitations include keynote speaker at the China Children's Center in Beijing (2015), guest conductor of the Utah Valley Symphony (2016, 2014, 2012), guest conductor of the Cypress Creek FACE Choral Festival in Spring, Texas (2015), professor-in-residence at Fudan University in Shanghai (2014), guest conductor of the Utah Junior High Honors Choral Festival (2014), keynote speaker for the Shanghai Music Conductors Association Conference (2014, 2013), professor-in-residence at Beijing Chemical Technology University (2013), guest conductor of Utah Lyric Opera (2012), and conductor-in-residence of Cuba's premier male choir, Sine Nomine in Havana (2012). Dr. Criddle completed his Doctorate of Musical Arts in Conducting at the University of Michigan and his Masters of Music in Choral Conducting at the Eastman School of Music. At Stanford University, he received his Masters of Arts in East Asian Studies and Bachelors of Arts in Vocal Performance and Chinese. Previous teaching posts include the University of Michigan, Eastman Community Music School, and the Young Musicians Program at the University of California, Berkeley.



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Collegiate Choir

Axel Theimer, conductor

Wana Baracka

Os Justi

2 and 3 from *Three Metaphysical Motets*

I saw eternity

At the round Earth's imagined corners

Liebeslieder, op. 52 – selections

8 Wenn so lind

11 Nein, es ist nicht

12 Schlosser auf

15 Nachtigall

Where your bare foot walks

Arr. Shawn Kirchner (Santa Barbara
sbmp 482)

Anton Bruckner (cpdl)

Z. Randall Stroepe (AMP 0865)

Johannes Brahms (cpdl)

David Childs (Walton Music
WW1397)



Dr. Axel Theimer, a native of Austria, where he was a member of the Vienna Boys Choir, is now beginning his 47th year on the music faculty at St. John's University and College of St. Benedict. He received much of his training in Vienna, continued his studies at Saint John's University and completed graduate degrees at the University of Minnesota - MFA in Choral Conducting (student of Dr. Thomas Lancaster) and DMA in Vocal Performance (student of Roy Schuessler).

He is an active recitalist, has presented master classes, workshops and seminars for state, regional, national and international music conventions and conferences and has conducted All

State Choirs, Choral Festivals and Honor Choirs throughout the United States and the Far East. At St. John's and St. Ben's he directs the *CSB/SJU Chamber Choir* and *SJU Men's Chorus* and teaches choral conducting and vocal pedagogy.

In addition to his professional activities at SJU and CSB he is founder and music director of *Kantorei* (www.Kantorei.net), a Twin Cities (Minneapolis/St. Paul) choral ensemble, of *Amadeus Chamber Symphony*, a chamber orchestra for Central Minnesota musicians and audiences and is music director of the *National Catholic Youth Choir* (www.CatholicYouthChoir.org). He is on the faculty, and is currently Executive Director of *The VoiceCare Network*. (www.voicecarenetwork.org). In 2001, he received the MN - ACDA *Choir Director of the Year Award* and, in 2004, was inducted to the *Minnesota Music Educators Association's "MMEA Hall of Fame"*. He is the 2011 recipient of the *ACDA-MN F. Melius Christiansen Lifetime Achievement Award*. Original compositions and arrangements for Men's Chorus, Women's, Mixed and Children's Choir are published by and available from Alliance Publications, Inc. Fish Creek, WI. (www.apimusic.org).



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Vocal Jazz Ensemble

Jennifer Parker, conductor

Smile
St. Thomas
Mindtrick
Sandu
Let Your Love Rain on Me

Steve Zegree (Hal Leonard)
Dave Cazier (Sound Music Publications)
Kerry Marsh (kerrymarshvocaljazz.myshopify.com)
Rosana Eckert (rosanaeckert.com)
Michele Weir (michmusic.com)



Jennifer (Scovell) Parker is a full time faculty member at McNally Smith College of Music in Saint Paul, MN. She teaches a variety of courses in the voice department and directs the premiere Vocal Ensemble, (CVE). Jennifer also teaches contemporary voice lessons at Concordia University in St. Paul and has previously held positions at the St. Paul Conservatory for the Per-

forming Arts and Washington State University. Jennifer earned an M.M. from Western Michigan University in Jazz Performance and her B.A. from the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay in Jazz Studies.

With her heart in education, Jennifer is busy as a clinician, director and adjudicator throughout the U.S. Past highlights include presentations at the Colorado Music Educators Convention, Iowa Music Educators Convention, Washington Music Educators Convention, Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival, Minnesota Music Educators Convention and ACDA. She has had the privilege of directing the North Dakota and Colorado All State Jazz Choirs along with ensembles at the International Music Camp (IMC) and summer camps across the country.

Performing throughout the mid-west, Jennifer writes and arranges for her own Quartet and various other artists. Her first album of original music, *The Rest of Me* will be released in Spring 2016. Jennifer's song *Sign of Life*, will be featured in the upcoming documentary *The Za'atari Project*. This project is supported by Voices of the Children, a wonderful organization that brings the arts to Syrian refugee teens in the Za'atari camp in Jordan.

Jennifer is currently a member of Jazz Education Network (JEN), and serves as the ACDA Repertoire and Standards chair for Vocal Jazz in the state of Minnesota.