



New Year's Resolutions & "Full Spectrum Choirs" WCDA STATE CONVENTION 2010!

WCDA State Convention
Guest Choir:

CANTUS

"Recognized as one of America's finest professional male vocal ensembles, Cantus enjoys a vigorous schedule of national tours, subscription concerts in its home of Minneapolis and Saint Paul, educational outreach programs, and recording. The Washington Post hails the ensemble's sound as having both "exalting finesse" and "expressive power," and refers to their music-making as "spontaneous grace." The ensemble is known for adventurous programming spanning many periods and genres, including chant, Renaissance music, contemporary works, art song, folk, spirituals, world music, and pop."

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More convention

information

coming to our website:

www.wischoral.org!

Watch for it!

WHAT'S UP WITH THIS TITLE?

New Year's resolutions already? It's only September! Yes, I hear you loud and clear, but I'm willing to bet I am not the only teacher whose New Year's resolutions were made at the beginning of a new school year rather than New Year's Day. It was always one of my favorite aspects of teaching—the yearly opportunity to start anew—with new students, new repertoire, and new teaching strategies.

No matter how exciting or hum-drum the previous school year had been, September always brought back anticipation and the excitement of a brand new start. So, that's when I made resolutions—it just seemed more natural to me, and I found resolutions made in September were more likely to actually happen. *So, how about giving this a try?* Make some New Year's resolutions this September and see how it works for you. Here are a couple of suggestions:

1. RESOLVE to have the most fulfilling and exciting school year of your career by planning exciting classes and rehearsals with great repertoire that not only challenges your students but also challenges *you* and fills your spiritual and artistic "cup."

2. RESOLVE to attend the WCDA Convention in Eau Claire, January 14-16, 2010: "Full Spectrum Choirs for the Twenty-First Century: *All Ages, Cultures & Styles—Singing, Learning & Sharing.*"

The convention is one of the very best ways to "fill the cup" and keep the anticipation and excitement of September going.

Just think about it...it's cold...it's winter...it's January... it's getting harder and harder to go to work in the dark and then come home in the dark...and the school year seems to be sliding into the doldrums. So you hop in your car and travel to Eau Claire for the WCDA 2010 Convention and then...EUREKA! You hear inspiring performances, learn new and exciting teaching strategies, read through a variety of repertoire, learn and share ideas with colleagues, and—LO & BEHOLD—your energy level is re-charged and you go back to your school year with the fire and excitement to have a fabulous winter and spring!

Sounds great, doesn't it? Make this your year to attend—apply for that "Professional Day" *Now!* Don't let anything stand in your way—*YOU DESERVE THIS!*

Cantus
will perform
at the 2010
WCDA State
Convention



Photo © Jen Cress

Save the date!

JANUARY 14–16, 2010 • EAU CLAIRE

WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO LOOK FORWARD TO?

The attendees at the 2009 convention had lots of great suggestions for sessions and we've got a number of them on the schedule. In addition, we have outstanding presenters, inspiring guest conductors, and remarkable choirs. Our theme, "Full Spectrum Choirs for the Twenty-First Century: *All Ages, Cultures & Styles— Singing, Learning & Sharing,*" will certainly come to life during the 3 days in Eau Claire.

Here some of the highlights:

* HEADLINER CHOIR

We are delighted to welcome the amazing and musically diverse **CANTUS** as our Headliner Choir. This group of nine men is recognized as one of America's finest professional male vocal ensembles. In June they won Chorus America's highest honor, the Margaret Hillis Award for Choral Excellence—the first chamber group ever to win the award. They are musically fine and superbly entertaining. They will appear on Friday evening, January 15.

* GUEST CONDUCTORS

Children's All-State Choir

Sandra Mathias

Cleveland Children's Chorus, OH

Middle Level All-State Choir

Mark Johnson

Minneapolis Boy Choir, MN

Men's All-State Choir:

Thomas Jenrette

Eastern Tennessee University

Vocal Jazz All-State Choir

Kirby Shaw, composer, arranger, and internationally recognized jazz educator

Collegiate All-State Choir

Peggy Dettwiler

Mansfield University, Mansfield, PA

* PRESENTERS

Axel Theimer, Elizabeth Grefsheim, and Babette Lightner of the VoiceCare Network will present a series of sessions on Saturday on voice care throughout your career, conducting, and Alexander Technique.

Kirby Shaw will present two sessions on jazz style and successful rehearsal techniques for the vocal jazz ensemble. He will also lead a reading session of vocal jazz repertoire.

Randy Swiggum and **Margaret Jenks** will present a series of sessions on "Full Spectrum Teaching and Rehearsing" and a reading session following up on their successful "Treasure Hunt" sessions at previous WMEA conferences.

James Kinchen will "Celebrate the Kwanzaa!" with a presentation on Glenn Burleigh's "NGUZO SABA SUITE"

Eduardo Garcia-Novelli will share his knowledge of "Spanish Diction for English-Speaking Choirs."

More interest sessions will be announced soon.

* AUDITIONED CHOIRS

Gifford Elementary School Choir, Racine

Jack Senzig, director

Lombardi Middle School, Green Bay

Rhonda Knoespel, director

Hartford Union High School, Hartford

Stephanie Klockow, director

Hudson High School, Hudson

Andrew Haase, director

Appleton North High School, Appleton

Craig Aamot, director

UW-Parkside Chamber Choir

James Kinchen, Jr., director

UW-Eau Claire Concert Choir

Gary Schwartzhoff, director



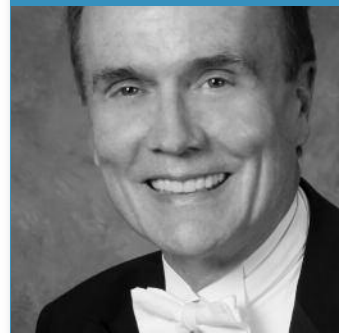
—Susan McAllister, WCDA President-elect and 2010 Convention Chair



Sandra Mathias



Mark Johnson



Thomas Jenrette



Kirby Shaw



Peggy Dettwiler

The 5-Star Recognition Program

*“To sing is to love
and affirm, to fly
and soar, to coast
into the hearts of
people who listen.*

*To tell them that life
is to live, that love is
there, that nothing is
a promise, but that
beauty exists*

*And must be hunted
for and found.”*

-Joan Baez

Did you attend the 2009 WCDA convention in Eau Claire last January?
If so, you probably qualify for this award!!

If you are also a member of WCDA, you have satisfied 2 of the 5 Steps needed to become a **2010 5-Star Award recipient**. Receive accolades for your program and professional recognition for the good work you do, by completing the remaining steps. Here they are:

- ★ 1. You must be an active, life or retired member of WCDA.
- ★ 2. You must have attended the 2009 WCDA Convention in Eau Claire.
- ★ 3. One or more of your singers must have participated, or will participate, in a WCDA-sponsored event during the **calendar year 2009**: 2009 WCDA Convention All-State Choirs; 2009 convention performance choirs; September, 2009 NextDirection Conference; or the November, 2009 Singing In Wisconsin Festival. Singing in Wisconsin students must be registered by the September 25 deadline.
- ★ 4. Submit three recommendations, one from each of the following areas: a.) WCDA colleague, b.) administrator or supervisor, and c.) parent, singer or community member
- ★ 5. Submit three of your recommendations for outstanding repertoire which you have personally conducted and would like to share.

You will find the application form at the WCDA website <www.wischoral.org> or you may request that a form be faxed to you from the WCDA office (920-826-2832). Print a form and send it in right away. October 15, 2009 is the postmark deadline date for all 5-Star applications. You will be recognized as one of Wisconsin's most active and dynamic choral programs!

Congratulations in advance to all the 2010 5-Star Award recipients!

For those directors who have previously received the award—

Great News! You do not need to submit new recommendations with your renewal application. (You may skip Step 4.) We do, however, ask that you submit three more titles for a future repertoire publication.

DEADLINE:

Forms must be sent to the WCDA office with a \$10.00 fee, postmarked by **October 15, 2009**.

There is an optional plaque which may be ordered on the application form. ■

Nominations for WCDA Awards

—Rodger Trader, WCDA President
trarod@easttroy.k12.wi.us

We are pleased to announce ...

that nominations are now being accepted for these prestigious WCDA Awards:

Morris D. Hayes Award:

Established in 1985, this award was named for one of the founders of WCDA, Morris D. Hayes, who was president of WCDA, NCACDA, and National ACDA in three consecutive years. The award does not have to be given every year, but is to be reserved for people of outstanding merit.

CRITERIA: Candidate must be a current or former resident of Wisconsin who has demonstrated a commitment to choral music whether through teaching, conducting, or service to the art and who has made outstanding contributions to choral music in Wisconsin.

The Stanley Custer Distinguished Service Award

Established in 1994, and renamed in honor of our unique benefactor and champion of choral music, Dr. G. Stanley Custer, in 1999.

CRITERIA: Candidate must be an individual whose contributions to the organization are exemplary and/or go beyond the normal services provided for the operation of Wisconsin Choral Directors Association, Inc.

Outstanding Church Musician Award

Established in 1998 to recognize an individual whose contributions to music in the church are exemplary.

CRITERIA: Candidate must be a current WCDA member who has made significant contributions in the field of church music in the State of Wisconsin.

Outstanding Middle Level Choral Director Award

Established in 1998 to recognize significant contributions made in the area of middle level choral directing.

CRITERIA: Candidate must be a current WCDA member and middle level choral director (grades 6-9) with a minimum of ten years experience who exhibits characteristics usually associated with master teachers.

Outstanding Young Choral Director Award

Established in 1993 to honor teachers with five or fewer years experience, the scope of this award has been expanded to include all choral directors with ten or fewer years of experience.

CRITERIA: Candidate must be a current WCDA member who exhibits characteristics usually associated with master teachers, including enthusiasm, energy, musicianship, student rapport, and professionalism; who has made a considerable impact on the size, quality of performance, festival involvement, and visibility of the program; and/or who has also made a commitment to the community through church or civic choral organizations, youth activities, or civic service organizations.

How to Nominate:

These awards represent the highest achievement possible for WCDA choral musicians!

Nominations may be made in two ways:

1. Go to the WCDA website: www.wischoral.org and click on "WCDA Awards" on our Home Page to access a printable form, OR
2. Contact the WCDA Office and request a Nomination Form: (920) 826-2832 or wcd@wischoral.org.

Nomination forms must be mailed to **Rodger Trader, P.O. Box 709, East Troy WI 53120**, postmarked by **OCTOBER 15, 2009** for consideration by the WCDA Board. Please write a short essay (200 words or fewer) in support of the individual's qualifications.

Award winners will be announced at the WCDA Convention in Eau Claire, January 14–16, 2010. ■

MORRIS D. HAYES AWARD WINNERS:

1985 – Morris Hayes

1987 – Margaret Hawkins

1988 – Elliot Wold

1990 – Antonio Molina

1994 – Robert Jennings

1995 – Betty Dunne

1996 – Gerald Darrow

1997 – Robert Mirshak

1998 – Ruth Knoll

1999 – Lee Jacobi

2000 – Bill Diekhoff

2001 – Gregory Carpenter

2002 – Jim Miller

2003 – Wallace Cheatham

2004 – James Machan

2006 – Kurt Chalgren

2007 – Carl Chapman

2008 – Mark Aamot

2009 – Harry Johansen