

2010 WCDA STATE CONVENTION

EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN • JANUARY 14-16

Full Spectrum Choirs for the Twenty-First Century:

All Ages, Cultures & Styles – Singing, Learning & Sharing



Susan Mc Allister

It sure has been an interesting and educational experience for me to chair the upcoming WCDA State Convention. Back in March, when the theme was selected, I accepted the challenge of making this theme come alive. I expressed my hope in the Spring issue of Soundings “that our 2010 WCDA

Convention will include interest sessions, guest clinicians, choirs, and conductors that

provide inspiration and information to assist us in *celebrating and creating Full Spectrum Choirs.*”

Using the list of suggested sessions from the attendees at the 2009 convention, the traditional WCDA convention activities and events, and the theme as a guide, we have put together a line-up of sessions and performances that will be inspiring, exciting, practical, and educational and truly represents “All Ages, Cultures, and Styles – Singing, Learning, & Sharing.”

All Ages, Cultures, & Styles

SINGING

Auditioned Choirs

The auditioned choirs performing at the 2010 convention represent elementary, middle school, high school, and college/university – a broad spectrum of choristers. Each of these outstanding Wisconsin choirs will present programs that include repertoire from other cultures and a variety of styles, written by well-known and new composers.

WCDA All-State Choirs

Over 400 selected singers from throughout Wisconsin, representing over 100 schools from elementary through university are involved in our 5 All-State Choirs: Children’s, Middle Level High School Men High School Vocal Jazz and Collegiate. Under the expert direction of our guest conductors, we can expect outstanding performances of excellent and exciting repertoire.

CANTUS – Headliner Choir

Our headliner choir is the amazing and musically diverse **CANTUS**. This group of nine men is recognized as one of America’s finest professional male vocal ensembles and recently 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.

LEARNING

Interest Sessions

A wide variety of interest sessions is scheduled, representing many of the ideas proposed by attendees at last year’s convention and across the spectrum of subjects related to celebrating and creating “Full Spectrum Choirs for the 21st Century.” Each individual session will share valuable information and insights. But for those particularly interested in the subjects of voice care, comprehensive musicianship, or vocal jazz style, a series of 3- 4 sessions is being offered in those areas to allow you to delve more deeply into those subjects.

Collegiate Symposium

WCDA is committed to nurturing and mentoring the youngest members of our profession and the Collegiate Symposium certainly fulfills that purpose. New to the symposium this year, and embracing the “Full Spectrum” of age and experience in the WCDA, is an effort to optimize the connections and networking opportunities of our youngest choral directors by including sessions from the regular schedule as part of the Collegiate Symposium. If you are an undergraduate music major or a new teacher with one to three years experience, we encourage you to take advantage of this FREE opportunity.

SHARING

Meet & Greet Colleagues

If you’ve attended the WCDA Convention in the past, you’ve experienced the myriad of opportunities to informally connect and share joys, challenges, ideas, and concerns with colleagues both new and old. In fact, for many, this is what they most look forward to on an annual basis.

Reception

After the performances on the opening night of the convention, please attend the Reception to be held at The Plaza Hotel & Suites – our home hotel. This event is a nice opportunity to “kick back” a bit and get your 2010 convention experience off to a great start.

Awards Luncheon and General Session

At this year’s Friday luncheon, we will be trying out a new approach. Rather than the traditional R&S concept, we will be gathering at the Davies Center on the campus of UW-Eau Claire for a luncheon that will include an abbreviated General Session, the sharing of your ideas

Schedule

All events will take place at the UW-Eau Claire Haas Fine Arts Center except Saturday All-State Concerts which will be at Eau Claire Memorial High School. Schedule subject to change.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14

5:00–7:00 Registration: Haas Center

5:00 Student Conducting Competition

7:30 PERFORMANCE

Hartford High School Concert Choir
Stephanie Klockow, director

Hudson High School Chamber Choir
Andrew Haase, director

UW-Parkside: “Voices of Parkside”
James Kinchen, Jr., director

2:00 VISIT EXHIBITS

2:30 INTEREST SESSION & COLLEGIATE/
NEW TEACHER SYMPOSIUM
Tim Wurgler: “Solo & Ensemble
Tips and Techniques.”

INTEREST SESSION

Margaret Jenks & Rebecca Winnie:
#3 “Thinking Across the Spectrum: Think CMP.”

READING SESSION

Kirby Shaw: #1 “Songs of Inspiration.”

3:45 VISIT EXHIBITS

4:00 SHARED PERFORMANCE
Gifford Elementary School Children’s Choir,
Racine; **Jack Senzig**, director
Lombardi Middle School Choir 3,
Green Bay, **Rhonda Knoespel**, director

4:30 DINNER (on your own)

7:00 PERFORMANCE
Appleton North High School
North Choir; **Craig Aamot**, director
UW-Eau Claire Concert Choir
Gary Schwartzhoff, director

Headliner Choir: **Cantus**

10:00 WCDA Reception

9:30 INTEREST SESSION

Kirby Shaw: #2 Vocal Jazz Style.

10:45 VISIT EXHIBITS

11:00 SIMULTANEOUS
INTEREST SESSIONS

Axel Theimer, Babette Lightner,
Elizabeth Grefsheim: VoiceCare Network:
#3 “Application to Conducting: The Melody.”

Kirby Shaw: #3 “So Many Styles, So Little
Time.”

12:15 LUNCH on your own

1:30 SIMULTANEOUS INTEREST SESSIONS
Axel Theimer, Babette Lightner,
Elizabeth Grefsheim: VoiceCare Network:
#4 “Vocal Health: The Music.”

Kirby Shaw: #4 “Dr. Shaw’s Instant Soul
Clinic.”

ALL-STATE CHOIR CONCERTS
Eau Claire Memorial HS

3:00 Children’s All State Choir,
Sandra Mathias, director

3:30 Middle Level All State Choir
Mark Johnson, director

4:00 HS Men’s All State Choir
Thomas Jenrette, director

4:30 Convention Wrap-up

CONCURRENT ACTIVITIES

STUDENT CONDUCTING
COMPETITION: Thursday, 5:00

COLLEGIATE SYMPOSIUM SESSIONS
Friday, January 15, 8:15, 9:30, & 2:30, with Col-
legiate All-State Choir performance, 1:30

ALL-STATE CHOIR REHEARSALS
throughout the convention.
Schedules will be printed in the program.

EXHIBITS

Friday: 9:30 – 5:00

Saturday: 9:00 – 1:30

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15

8:00–4:00 Registration: Haas Center

8:15 INTEREST SESSION & COLLEGIATE/
NEW TEACHER SYMPOSIUM
Margaret Jenks & Rebecca Winnie:
#1 “Full Spectrum Teaching.” A CMP
Children’s Choir Demo Rehearsal.

INTEREST SESSION

Eduardo Garcia-Novelli: “Spanish Diction
for English-speaking Choirs.”

9:30 INTEREST SESSION & COLLEGIATE/
NEW TEACHER SYMPOSIUM

Peggy Dettwiler:
“Developing a Choral Color Palette,”
with Collegiate All-State Demo Choir.

INTEREST SESSION

Margaret Jenks & Rebecca Winnie:
#2 “First Impressions.” Effective and
creative ways to introduce new repertoire.

10:45 VISIT EXHIBITS

11:00 PERFORMANCE

Vocal Jazz All-State Choir,
Kirby Shaw, director

11:45 AWARDS LUNCHEON &
WCDA GENERAL SESSION

1:30 PERFORMANCE

Collegiate All-State Choir
Peggy Dettwiler, director

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16

8:00–Noon, Registration: Haas Center

8:00 SIMULTANEOUS INTEREST SESSIONS
Axel Theimer, Babette Lightner,
Elizabeth Grefsheim: VoiceCare Network:
#1 “Laying the Foundation: The Pulse.”

James Kinchen:

Nguzo Saba Suite by Glenn Burleigh:
“Celebrating the Kwanzaa.”

9:15 VISIT EXHIBITS

9:30 SIMULTANEOUS INTEREST SESSIONS
Axel Theimer, Babette Lightner,
Elizabeth Grefsheim: VoiceCare Network:
#2 “Demonstrating the Principles: The Rhythm.”

for the 2011 convention, and the presentation of awards and recognition to our dedicated members who have given untold volunteer hours to elected positions, committees, and project work. Without these dedicated individuals, the many events and opportunities that WCDA provides to choral directors and their students could not happen. Let’s celebrate them!!

I believe each of us understands the impact a convention can have in re-energizing and inspiring us as teachers and directors with new teaching and rehearsal strategies, new approaches and information on pertinent subjects related to the choral field, and, of course, the

simple joy of being surrounded by colleagues, students, presenters, guest conductors and choirs who all share our passion for choral music.

I invite you to attend the 2010 WCDA State Convention in Eau Claire so you can reap all of these amazing benefits and join your fellow directors and singers on the road to creating “Full Spectrum Choirs for the Twenty-First Century.”

—Susan McAllister
WCDA President-elect
2010 Convention Chair

Headliner Choir

Cantus CONCERT: FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 7:00 PM

A founder of the Male Choir Commissioning Consortium, the ensemble has commissioned numerous new works from composers including Gavin Bryars, Lee Hoiby, Steven Sametz, Kenneth Jennings, Peter Hamlin, Edie Hill, and Robert Kyr. Cantus has received commissioning grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, American Composers Forum, and Chamber Music America. In addition to these new pieces, much of Cantus' music is composed and arranged by its members.

As a non-profit organization, Cantus is an active proponent of music education, encouraging people of all ages - especially men - to sing. The ensemble annually works with over 10,000 young people throughout the country in educational activities ranging from master classes to festivals and collaborations.

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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.

Cantus' 2008-09 season included a collaboration with Bobby McFerrin presented by the Minnesota Orchestra, the creation of a new work by Mary Ellen Childs with the James Sewell Ballet, and the nationwide broadcast of an original radio drama based on the World War One Christmas truce. 2007-08 highlights included an extended tour with the Boston Pops for the holiday season, a sold-out debut at the Kennedy Center, and an acclaimed premiere of *All is Calm: the Christmas Truce of 1914*. In the fall of 2007, the group made its African debut performing with Cameroonian choirs for joint concerts and workshops throughout southwest Cameroon, culminating in an outdoor stadium concert.

Cantus has toured throughout Canada and Europe. In the United States, the group has sung to great acclaim at many nationally recognized festivals and venues, including Library of Congress, Merkin Hall, San Francisco Performances, Oregon Bach Festival, and Spivey Hall, to name a few. Cantus has appeared as a special guest with the Minnesota Orchestra, and has a long-standing performing relationship with the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra. Their numerous recordings have garnered critical acclaim from *Stereophile*, *Gramophone*, *Classics Today*, and National Public Radio. The ensemble's eponymous 2007 recording *Cantus* was named one of NPR's 10 best for 2007. Frequently heard on public radio stations nationwide, Cantus is regularly featured on American Public Media's *Performance Today*. On Christmas Day, 2006 Cantus was chosen to represent the United States in a 24-hour marathon of music broadcast in 27 countries, via American Public Media and the European Broadcasting Union. *(continued at left)*

WCDA 2010 STATE CONVENTION

All-State Conductors in order of appearance

VOCAL JAZZ ALL-STATE CHOIR PERFORMANCE: FRIDAY, 11:00 AM

COLLEGIATE ALL-STATE CHOIR PERFORMANCE: FRIDAY, 1:30 PM

HIGH SCHOOL VOCAL JAZZ: KIRBY SHAW has made a major impact in choral music education and has shared his musical expertise in 45 states, Canada, Australia, the Bahamas, Sweden, The Netherlands, Italy and Germany. He has degrees in Music Education and Choral Composition from San Jose State University and a DMA degree in Choral Conducting from the University of Washington. Dr. Shaw's teaching is infused with a sense of humor and breadth of knowledge that is transmitted in an exciting and highly contagious manner. Kirby taught in the Mt. Shasta public schools before joining the faculty at College of the Siskiyous in California where he founded and directed the innovative and highly acclaimed COS Vocal Jazz Ensemble. He also directed similar groups at Colorado State University and The University of Missouri - Kansas City and is now directing the Jefferson State Choral Coalition at Southern Oregon University. Kirby has scatted one-on-one with such notables as Bobby McFerrin, Al Jarreau, Jon Hendricks (who once told Kirby... "Man, you don't make mistakes!"), Mark Murphy and Chris Calloway. He has overseen the creation of hundreds of educational recordings, 5 college-university albums and 2 solo albums. Kirby is a member of Just 4 Kicks, a 4 man a cappella ensemble specializing in Jazz. A composer/arranger with over 2500 choral arrangements/compositions in print, Kirby's music is sung around the world and has sold nearly 20 million copies. His most recent commission is for The Mormon Tabernacle Choir. This creative and prolific output has resulted in numerous ASCAP awards. Kirby and his wife, Markita have written an original musical based on Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol entitled SCROOICAL, soon to be presented at a quality theater near you! Kirby, his wife, Markita and their lick-your-face-off pound puppy, Solomon, live in a forest high above Southern Oregon's Rogue Valley. Website: Kirbyshaw.com

COLLEGIATE: PEGGY DETTWILER is professor of music and director of choral activities at Mansfield University, PA, where she conducts the Concert Choir, Festival Chorus, and Mansfieldians, and teaches choral conducting and methods. Before coming to Mansfield, she was assistant conductor to Donald Neuen at the Eastman School of Music, where she received a DMA in conducting. She also has an MM in choral conducting from UT-San Antonio and an MM in music education from UW-Madison. She chose to seek degrees in these areas of music because she believes that the choral conductor must be an educator as well as a performer and must have a thorough knowledge of vocal pedagogy. Dettwiler's choral experience includes working with singers of all ages through university, public school, church, and community choruses. Prior to coming to Mansfield in 1990, she was director of choral activities at St. Mary's University, San Antonio, TX, and choral director at Mt. Horeb High School in Mt. Horeb, WI. She has served as a guest conductor and lecturer throughout the United States, and she has given presentations at numerous ACDA and MENC Conventions. She has published several articles in the ACDA *Choral Journal*, and most recently has developed a DVD, "Developing a Vocal Color Palette for Various Choral Styles." Dettwiler is past president of the Pennsylvania ACDA and is currently the Pennsylvania representative on the board of directors for the National Collegiate Choral Organization. The Mansfield University ACDA Student Chapter which she advises was recognized as the Outstanding Student Chapter in the nation in 1997 and 2001 by ACDA. The Mansfield University Concert Choir has been invited each of the last seventeen years to perform at state, regional, national, or international choral conventions. In 2006, they appeared at the Inaugural Conference of the National Collegiate Choral Organization in San Antonio, TX, and in 2008, the Concert Choir won the World Championship in the Gospel & Spiritual Category at the World Choir Games in Graz, Austria.



KIRBY SHAW

Guest Director/Clinician
Vocal Jazz All-State Choir
Performance: Friday, 11:00 am
Reading Session: Friday, 2:30 pm

Interest Sessions:
Saturday, 9:30 am
11:00 am
and 1:30 pm



PEGGY DETTWILER

Guest Director/Clinician
Collegiate All-State Choir
Performance: Friday, 1:30 pm
Interest Session: Friday, 9:30 am

WCDA 2010 STATE CONVENTION

All-State Conductors in order of appearance

CONCERT: SATURDAY, JANUARY 16 at Eau Claire Memorial High School

3:00 PM: THE CHILDREN'S ALL-STATE CHOIR, Sandra Mathias, conductor

3:30 PM: THE MIDDLE LEVEL ALL-STATE CHOIR, Mark Johnson, conductor

4:00 PM: THE HIGH SCHOOL MEN'S ALL-STATE CHOIR, Thomas Jenrette, conductor



SANDRA MATHIAS

CHILDREN: **SANDRA MATHIAS** earned her degrees at SUNY-Fredonia (BS music education), Ball State University (MA with Orff Concentration), The Ohio State University (PhD music education), and The Kodály Center of America (Kodály Certificate). She is retired from Capital University, OH, where she served as professor of vocal music education for 29 years. Mathias maintains active contact with young people as the artistic director of the Columbus Children's Choir and the conductor for both the New World Singers and the high school Girls' A Cappella ensemble. Under her direction, the New World Singers performed at 2007 national conferences of ACDA and Organization of American Kodály Educators (OAKE). In 2008, the choir toured Germany, Austria and Hungary. Mathias is the recipient of the Kodály Institute Intezetért Award, the CSO Community Music Educator of the Year, the Southside Settlement Arts Freedom Award, and Outstanding Educator Award from OAKE. She has presented papers at conferences in the United States, Hungary, Australia, England, and China. She is a past president of OAKE, and serves as the state Repertoire & Standards Chair for Children's Choirs for OCDA. In the Spring of 2009, Mathias was the guest conductor for the Georgia All-State Middle School Treble Chorus and the OAKE National Children's Choir.



MARK JOHNSON

MIDDLE LEVEL: **MARK JOHNSON** began his work with the Minnesota Boychoir in 1991 as the accompanist. He was hired as the music director in 1993. Johnson holds a degree in vocal music education from St. Olaf College (Northfield, MN) and he taught junior high choral music for six years before becoming full-time director for the Boychoir. From 1995 to 2007, he was a member of the staff at Albemarle, a summer music camp program of the American Boychoir School in Princeton, New Jersey. Johnson's reputation in choral work, especially with children's groups, has led to many invitations to work as a clinician, accompanist and adjudicator for honors choirs and festivals in Louisiana, Illinois, Iowa, North Dakota, New York, North Carolina, Texas, Michigan and Virginia. Recently, he conducted the Minnesota ACDA 7th Grade Boys' Honor Choir and the Young Men's track for the World Voices Australia Festival at the Sydney Opera House. Johnson is active in ACDA and MMEA, and currently serves as the North Central Division Repertoire & Standards Chair for Boychoirs.



THOMAS JENRETTE

HIGH SCHOOL MEN: **THOMAS JENRETTE** is in his thirty-first year as director of choral activities and professor of music at East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN. A native of Galax, VA, he holds a BA in voice and MM in choral conducting from the UNC-Chapel Hill, and a DMA in voice performance from the University of Michigan. He has done post-doctoral study in conducting with Howard Swan, Brock McElheran, Margaret Hillis and Helmuth Rilling. Under Jenrette's direction, the ETSU Men's Ensemble has been selected to perform for two southern division and two national conventions of ACDA. They have also been invited to perform for the southern division convention of MENC, two national conventions of the Intercollegiate Men's Choruses, and twice at the White House. Concert tours have taken them throughout the eastern United States, Europe, Venezuela, and the Caribbean. Jenrette served as ACDA Southern Division Repertoire & Standards Chair for male choruses from 2000 to 2006. He has been invited to conduct all-state male choirs in Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee as well as mixed high school honor choirs in Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee. Jenrette is a member of Pi Kappa Lambda and Omicron Delta Kappa honor societies, an honorary member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, and a National Arts Associate in Sigma Alpha Iota.