

Winter 2008

The Kendor

Official Publication of the Kentucky Choral Directors Association

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President's Message

Have you ever noticed the spike in the use of classical music in TV commercials as we head towards Christmas? Have you ever wondered why? What about the insistence of many a bride on classical instrumental and vocal music at her wedding, when she's never attended a concert and regularly listens to only pop or country on her car radio?

At great occasions of state, whether ceremonial or celebratory or somber, the choice of music is frequently...classical.

It seems to me that in times of deep feeling, when deep emotion needs expression, even the untrained layperson turns towards the classical repertoire. Not exclusively, not always, but often enough to notice.

Does this tendency have any connection to my choirs? I think it should. Music is, at a fundamental level, a means of personal and corporate expression. Students and church and community choir singers talk about how music "touches" them in unique ways. Audience members—if we're lucky—do the same.

In our roles as directors, we provide the vocabulary for personal expression in the music we choose for our choirs. Are we (am I) making good choices that will allow deep expression? Or do we (do I) stick too often with superficial pieces that may please the crowd, but not move them?

Don't misunderstand me. I program a wide range of styles to reflect the wide range of human experience. And some of it is indeed lighter in character, maybe easier to pick up, sometimes a real "foot patter" of a piece for the audience. We need that too.

What concerns me is when I hear concerts or see concert programs or attend worship services that only consist of light music. All pop and no meat. Where do singers go to find a vehicle for profound thoughts and feelings if not in choir? And I would suggest that the classical repertoire is one of the best places to find the profound music to match those emotions.

Our culture too often goes with flash rather than substance. What about our choirs? Do we encourage our singers to live life more richly because of their choir experience, because of the profound music we prepare and perform together? I hope so.

May you have a clear downbeat,

John Campbell

Summer Choral Workshop in Review Paul Hondorp, Western Kentucky University

Over 100 teachers and students attended the KY-ACDA convention, held in downtown Lexington this past July. Headliner Dr. Randall Stroope offered a number of thought-provoking sessions, including: a “Conductor’s chorus” on rehearsal techniques with all attendees as the laboratory choir; “Teaching Head Voice to Young Adolescent Males,” – an exploration of tone production in the young male voice, “Core, Color and Canopy” (assisted by the Lexington Singers Children’s Choir, Dr. Lori Hetzel, director).

Attendees seeking repertoire were offered several reading sessions: Dr. Stroope led several sessions featuring new music; Dr. Randy Pennington focused on holiday works, and included wonderful recent scores and several high quality favorites from past years; Dr. Gary Anderson introduced attendees to a number of excellent and accessible Swedish choral works and publishers. Simultaneous “finding literature” sessions were held for middle school (led by Scott Burrell) and college/university (organized by Dr. John Campbell).

Dr. Joy Berger’s session “Music of the Soul: Composing Life in the Midst of Stress” reminded attendees to keep our daily professional lives in perspective. Perhaps, as December looms, we need a refresher course!

Perhaps the most exciting development at this convention was the number of student attendees, made possible in part by the waiving of fees for all registered student ACDA members.

The President of the WKU student chapter commented highlights from her observations:

This year was my first experience attending the KY-ACDA Summer Workshop. We arrived in Lexington on Sunday to enjoy the Music and Worship service, and on Monday morning we were pleasantly greeted by energized professionals.

...I thoroughly enjoyed Dr. Stroope’s clinics and insights throughout the workshop. Perhaps my favorite session was “Teaching Head Voice to Young Adolescent Males.” The student “guinea pigs” brought the session to life, and the results of Dr. Stroope’s work were clear.

...As students about to graduate in the coming year, we were excited about the variety of new music that was shared, and the professional contacts we made...

Thank you to KY-ACDA for making this event free to students...it was a wonderful growth opportunity for us!

Christina McCarl East

As always, this event provided a shot in the arm for the coming academic and worship year, and the chance to “talk shop” with colleagues throughout the state. Congratulations to KY-ACDA President John Campbell and the state board for an excellent and motivating event.





Value Enhancement for Life

Z. Randall Stroope

Dr. Stroope contributed this article as follow up to his session at the KY-ACDA summer choral workshop.

Colleen Barrett, President of Southwest Airlines (483 jets), was recently quoted as running the business over the phone and with hand-written messages to her colleagues in and out of the office. She didn't use e-mail, amazingly. Now this article is not about promoting the discontinuance of e-mail, but...

I find a troubling paradox in the media bombardment of the "fast food", "do more in less time" message to us and our students on the one hand, juxtaposed with "craftsmanship is important", and the "quality assurance" message on the other. We buy cell phones, BlackBerries, electronic planners and the like so we can do more in less time and "simplify our lives." "Eat on the road, e-mail fifty people a day, and never have any private time without a cell phone ringing in your pocket or the person's next to you (even in the restroom)." That sounds more like "complicate your life as quickly as you can in the least amount of time."

But do you want to buy a house built in the least amount of time? Do you specifically remember ONE e-mail you got last year? (Most business people receive about 10,000 a year). Worse, do you remember even ONE e-mail that you sent? Can you quote it?

Our gadget society was intended to simplify our lives, but instead it complicated them, increased our busyness, and worst of all - *made our daily communication so insignificant that we can't even remember one percent of it a year later.*

Choral music comes along and says "slow craftsmanship", "long range benefits", "hard work with results not always readily seen", "every piece is a work of art that you will remember for years to come", and "this work ethic will change your entire life". Your students need choir in this world of driving while eating a cheeseburger with one hand and holding a cell phone with the other. Do you want a singer "built in the least amount of time"? Did Notre Dame's Lou Holtz throw a team together, or Bill Gates run his investments in a fritz? Is that the way to "win"? Are you promoting this with your students, or stopping it?

Proper training takes TIME. Teachers are providing *value enhancement* for students.

Meeting individually with every student (even for ten minutes) once a year takes TIME. Teachers are *embracing the very core* of students.

Besides being a wonderful musician, Robert Shaw was a wonderful human being, and he constantly talked about life and philosophy. (In fact, philosophy, English literature, and religion, not music, were his majors in college.) The most effective teachers and conductors are also the most *human* – believable, simply profound, and connected to the essence of life itself.

- Keep yourself and your students connected to significance in life.
- Never apologize about taking time (lots of it) in the quest for excellence
- You may be the only compass in the life of so many. Be sure you are pointing in the right direction.

P.S. Colleen Barrett (SW Airlines President) can boast as running the most financially profitable airline in the U.S. today (w/o gadgets). A personal touch or handwritten note may be worth something, who knows?



Congratulations to
David Davies,
2007 recipient of the
Robert K. Baar
Choral Excellence Award.

**Seeking Nominees for the 2008
Robert K. Baar Choral Excellence Award**

This award was named in honor of Robert K. Baar, outstanding master musician, retired from Murray State University, who developed KY-ACDA's Summer Choral Workshop. Previous recipients (not eligible to receive the award again) are:

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1994: Robert K. Baar | 2001: David Brown |
| 1995: Marilyn Schraeder | 2002: Stephen Bolster |
| 1996: Gary Anderson | 2003: Shelia Miller |
| 1997: Shirley Wilkinson | 2004: Bradley Almquist |
| 1998: Robert Ellis | 2005: Arthur DeWeese |
| 1999: Carl Smith | 2006: John Stegner |
| 2000: Frank Heller | 2007: David Davies |

Nomination/Selection Process:

Any member of KY-ACDA is eligible to nominate a candidate for the award by submitting a letter of nomination to the current Vice President of KY-ACDA (Art DeWeese) by May 1.

Each year after the nomination deadline, the Past Presidents, current President, and President-Elect of KY-ACDA will select the most outstanding candidate from the nominees submitted by the membership. The award is presented annually at the Summer Choral Workshop.

Criteria

The following criteria are used to determine eligible honorees.

- a) must have a minimum of fifteen years of musical experience in the choral art
- b) must be a current member of ACDA
- c) must be an active participant in KY-ACDA/ACDA activities and conventions
- d) must be dedicated to promoting music education in the state of Kentucky

An Open Letter to KY-ACDA directors with students in the 2007 Fall Convocation All-State Choirs

From: Dr. John W. Campbell, KY-ACDA President

This past weekend was a wonderful event for middle school students from throughout the commonwealth. Going into it, my hopes were 1) that the participants would have a good time, and therefore be encouraged to make choral music a regular, ongoing part of their lives, and 2) that they would make real music in the performances. Both of those goals were accomplished, and were beautifully done.

There are many people to thank for that strongly positive outcome. Scott Burress and Darrell Parks—the Middle School/Junior High R&S Chair and the Children's Choirs R&S Chair respectively—worked many, many, many hours giving their attention to thousands of details to make the event run smoothly. Please express to them your appreciation for their behind-the-scenes work on behalf of your students.

We had three fabulous conductors—Cristi Miller, Terri Foster and Frank Heller— and three fine accompanists—Debbie Lanham, Andrea Archer and Paula Roberts—whose musicianship, musical preparation and people skills were crucial to the success of the weekend. Thank you to each of you. Well done!

The stars in the event, however, were the students. Their professional demeanor and attention in rehearsal spoke very highly of your work with them and their receptivity to the discipline of music-making. Even when everything did not go as planned with rehearsal space on Saturday morning at the hotel, their uncomplaining flexibility spoke volumes about their focus on the goal of performance, and I could not have been more proud of them for simply working through the problems that arose. Then they went to Calvary Baptist Church that afternoon and knocked our socks off. These young people have a very bright future, whatever they tackle, and it was a pleasure and a privilege to meet many of them and to hear them sing.

I look forward to seeing you at the 2008 Fall Convocation, and other ACDA events between now and then.

Sincerely,
John



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KY-ACDA Repertoire and Standards Chairs 2007-2008**Boy Choir**

David Davies
Harlan High School
420 E. Central St.
Harlan, KY 40831
dld@harlanonline.net

Children's Choir

Darrell-Letcher Parks
darrell.parks@nelson.kyschools.us
3800 Debson Way
Louisville, KY 40241
tefoster@louisvilleyouthchoir.com

Jr. High / Middle School Choir

Scott Burress
Larue County High School
925 S. Lincoln Blvd.
Hodgenville, KY 42748
scott.burress@larue.kyschools.us

Senior High School Choir

Brent Merritt
Scott County High School
1080 Cardinal Dr.
Georgetown, KY 40324
brent.merritt@scott.kyschools.us

College/University Choir

David Etter
University of the Cumberland
7525 College Station Dr.
Williamsburg, KY 41501
deter@ucumberland.edu

Community Choir

Heather McCormick
Henderson Community College
2660 South Green St.
Henderson, KY 42420
heather.mccormick@kctcs.edu

Ethnic / Multicultural Perspectives

Tony Cunha
Campbellsville University
1 University Dr. UPO 853
Campbellsville, KY 42718
aocunha@campbellsville.edu

Male Choir

John Stegner
Bluegrass Community & Tech. Coll.
164 Opportunity Way
Lexington, KY 40511
john.stegner@earthlink.net

Music and Worship

Louie Bailey
Crescent Hills Baptist Church
2800 Frankfort Ave.
Louisville, KY 40206
drlbailey@aol.com

Two-Year College Choir

Norman F. Wurgler

Women's Choir

Barbara Hall
Centre College
600 West Walnut St.
Danville, KY 40422
barbara.hall@centre.edu

Youth/Student Activities

Randy Pennington
Northern Kentucky University
Highland Heights, KY 41099
pennington@nku.edu

KY-ACDA Officers Notification from John Campbell

State ACDA officers typically serve a two-year term, starting in July of odd-numbered years. That means I'm just a few months into my term as your state president, and with me is a slate of officers, most of whom are beginning their roles too. These fine folks—your state officers—are resources for you. When you have a question about, say, a women's choir, call Barbara Hall to ask for help, or David Davies for a boychoir question, or...well, you get the idea. If officers don't have an answer from their own experience, they'll tackle the issue with you. They are there to serve you. Call on them. And call on me. You'll find a listing of officers in each edition of *The Kendor*.

Tiffany Marsh is the new editor of our state newsletter, and my thanks go to her for the copy you have in your hand. Good work, Tiffany!

If you would like to include an article, upcoming choral event, or segment on a previous event in the Spring 2008 issue of *The Kendor* contact Tiffany Marsh at tiffany.marsh@franklin.kyschools.us

4th Annual High School Choral Invitational at Western Kentucky University

The Fourth Annual WKU High School Choral Invitational Festival was held on Friday, October 19, in Western Kentucky University's historic Van Meter Hall. Participating choirs this year included: Ballard HS (Noel Weaver, director); Bowling Green HS (Mark Walker, director); Greenwood HS (Debbie Belcher, director); Paducah-Tilgman HS (Art DeWeese, director); Warren Central HS (Stacie Johnson, director); Warren East HS (Eric Doades, director); and Whitehouse HS (Whitehouse, TN; Katie Baker, director).

This non-competitive festival gave choirs the opportunity to work with a guest clinician on-stage early in the year, with the other ensembles benefiting from the commentary. This year's guest clinician was Dr. Graeme Langager. A native of Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada, Dr. Langager is Director of Choral Activities at the University of Arkansas. He received his doctoral degree from University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music, and has degrees from California State University – Long Beach and the University of British Columbia. Prior to his appointment at the University of Arkansas, he taught at the high school and community college level in North Carolina and California. Dr. Langager is known as a creative, inspiring and passionate educator who strives for excellence from himself and his students. His commissions, compositions and arrangements have been performed and recorded by some of the finest ensembles in North America.

Louisville 2008: March 5-8

CONGRATULATIONS

to the following Kentucky choral groups who will be featured at the
2008 ACDA Regional Division convention in Louisville

Noe Middle School 7th and 8th Grade Chorus

Alexis Paxton, director

University of Kentucky Men's Chorus

Jefferson Johnson, director

University of Kentucky Women's Choir

Lori R. Hetzel, director

University of Louisville Chorus and Orchestra

Kent Hatteberg, director

HEADLINER ANONYMOUS IV

President's Concert
Friday, March 7 at 8:00 p.m.
Kentucky Center for the Arts, Whitney Hall



2008 ACDA Southern Division Convention Registration

Louisville, Kentucky • March 5-8, 2008

Three Simple Ways to Register!

Advance Registration Postmark Deadline: **January 29, 2008**

- 1 MAIL** ACDA
Attn: Louisville Convention
P.O. Box 2720
Oklahoma City, OK 73101-2720
- 2 Fax** (405) 232-8162 (cover sheet not necessary)
- 3 On-Site** Galt House Hotel
140 N Fourth St, Louisville, KY

To avoid duplication, do not fax your form if mailing a check.

STEP 1: ACDA Membership -Required for attendance

ACDA membership is required for all choral directors registering.

- I'm a current ACDA Member # _____
- ACDA membership must be current at the start of the convention. Renew membership before the convention to avoid delay.
- I'm not a current ACDA Member; I will join/renew my membership today in order to register.
- Enclose a ACDA Membership Application with separate payment. Visit www.acdaonline.org or call 405-232-8161.
- I am also registering these guest(s)*

Name - PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY _____ City, State _____

Name - PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY _____ City, State _____

*Guests must register with an ACDA member that is attending the convention. Limit two (2) guests per registered ACDA member.

STEP 2: Contact Information

Name - PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY _____

Primary Mailing Address _____ Home Work

City _____ State / Province _____ Postal Code _____ Country _____

Home Telephone Number _____ Work Telephone Number _____

Home E-mail Address _____

Work E-mail Address *Confirmation of registration will be sent by e-mail to those who provide their address. E-mail addresses are not sold.

STEP 3: My Badge

(Badge will print exactly as listed below - 50 characters per line)

First Name - PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY _____

Full Name _____

Institution _____

City _____ State / Province _____ and Country if not US _____

STEP 4: Registration Fees

REGISTRATION TYPE	ADVANCE REGISTRATION On or before 1-29-08	FULL & ON-SITE REGISTRATION On or after 1-30-08	
Active/Life Registration	<input type="checkbox"/> \$140.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$155.00	\$ _____
Retired Registration	<input type="checkbox"/> \$95.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$125.00	\$ _____
Student Registration	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$90.00	\$ _____
Guest Registration*	<input type="checkbox"/> \$140.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$155.00	\$ _____
Single Day (one only) <input type="checkbox"/> Thurs. <input type="checkbox"/> Fri. <input type="checkbox"/> Sat.	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50.00	\$ _____

*Guests must register with an ACDA member that is attending the convention. Limit two (2) guests per registered ACDA member.

STEP 5: Ecumenical Service

Please indicate at which time you prefer to attend the Ecumenical Worship Service on Thursday.

- Pre-Dinner 6:30 pm
 Post-Dinner 8:30 pm

STEP 6: Payment (select one only)

Total Amount Due: \$ _____

Check # _____

(payable to ACDA in US Dollars. Do not fax form if paying by check.)

Purchase Order Number _____
(All POs must be received by 1-29-2008; this form must accompany all purchase orders.)

Visa

MasterCard

Discover

_____/_____/_____/_____
Card Number

Name on Card

_____/_____/_____/_____
Expiration Date

Signature _____

I agree to pay the total amount due according to the credit card issuer agreement and I agree to all terms and conditions listed on this form. All fees are non-refundable.

Convention Policies By registering for this convention, I acknowledge and will abide by all ACDA convention policies. All membership and convention fees are non-refundable and non-transferable. ACDA membership must be current at the start of the convention. The registrant is responsible for making hotel reservations and proper arrangements to attend the convention. Those who register by the postmark deadline of January 29, 2008 will receive the Advance Registration rates and a confirmation card in the mail. Everyone who registers and provides their e-mail address will be notified by e-mail on the day registration is processed. Add <conventions@acdaonline.org> to your address book to ensure receipt of confirmation e-mail.

- Photocopy this form for your records -

ACDA NATIONAL CONVENTION MARCH 4-7, 2009

ACDA is seeking informative and engaging interest session proposals relevant to today's active choral director for presentation at the 2009 convention.

Those interested in presenting a session at this national event are encouraged to submit a written proposal outlining the details of the session. Session may include lectures, interactive workshops with a demonstration choir, a panel discussion, or other format.

All presenters must be a current member of ACDA. Proposals will be considered by members of the national convention committee.

Proposals must be postmarked by March 2, 2008.

ACDA has established the
Dr. Gene Brooks Memorial Fund.

Send donations to:

**Dr. Gene Brooks
Memorial Fund
ACDA Endowment
PO Box 2720
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
73101-2720**

Make checks payable to
"ACDA Endowment."

"Gene Brooks Memorial Fund"
on the memo line.

*All donations are tax deductible.

KY-ACDA
Tiffany Marsh, editor
Western Hills High School
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