

Winter 2012

# The Kendor

Official Publication of the Kentucky Choral Directors Association

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## President's Message Brent Merritt

*"Experience, Enjoy and Grow!"*

If you have seen me in the past 8 months, you have probably had to endure my giddy story about how we are going to have a *SPECTACULAR SUMMER CONFERENCE* this July! Well, I can't help it! It IS going to be spectacular, and I hope EVERY KYACDA member will plan to participate! I'm tremendously excited about the many opportunities for us to all EXPERIENCE, ENJOY and GROW!

**What?** The *KYACDA SUMMER CONFERENCE* in conjunction with... the *WORLD CHOIR GAMES* and the *NATIONAL ACDA SYMPOSIUM*

**When?** JULY 8-10, 2012, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday – 3 days!

**Where?** CINCINNATI, OHIO. I know this is a Kentucky conference, so we are simply "adopting" Cincinnati into the Commonwealth for a few days this summer...we'll just call it Cincinnati, Kentucky!

**Who?** ALL y'all! ACDA members, of course!  
Go to [www.acda.org](http://www.acda.org) to join today!

**Why?** Because we are ALL students of choral music who want to...

*EXPERIENCE* phenomenal learning sessions with World Class Choral Masters!

*ENJOY* the opportunity to hear, see and meet the members of wonderful choirs from around the globe!

*GROW* as a choral director and teacher!

I encourage all of us to attend this remarkable, once-in-a-life-time event in Cincinnati this July. I am convinced we will all be inspired because of this experience! Please jump at this chance to grow with your colleagues this summer. Watch for registration information in the coming months.

Thanks for your support as we continue making plans for this major event.



Congratulations to

Lori Hetzel,  
2011 recipient of the

**Robert K. Baar  
Choral Excellence Award**

**Seeking Nominees for the 2012  
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 KYACDA's Summer Choral Workshop. Previous recipients (not eligible to receive the award again) are:

1994: Robert K. Baar	2003: Shelia Miller
1995: Marilyn Schraeder	2004: Bradley Almquist
1996: Gary Anderson	2005: Arthurs DeWeese
1997: Shirley Wilkinson	2006: John Stegner
1998: Robert Ellis	2007: David Davies
1999: Carl Smith	2008: Kent Hatteberg
2000: Frank Heller	2009: Heather McCormick & George Murphy
2001: David Brown	2010: Elaine Shirley
2002: Stephen Bolster	2011: Lori Hetzel

**Nomination/Selection Process**

Any member of KYACDA is eligible to nominate a candidate for the award by submitting a letter of nomination to the current Vice President of KYACDA, Phyllis Vincent, [phyllisvincent@me.com](mailto:phyllisvincent@me.com) by May 1.

Each year after the nomination deadline, the past presidents, current President, and President-Elect of KYACDA 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.

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

## KYACDA FALL CONVOCATION: A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE

Darrell Parks, Nelson County Schools  
Children's Choir R & S Chair

Sam Coleman, Montgomery County Schools  
JH/MS Choir R & S Chair

The KYACDA Fall Convocation took place on November 4-5 in Lexington and was a huge success! Approximately 600 elementary, middle and junior high school students representing over 150 schools were selected to participate out of nearly 1900 students who auditioned from across the state. The three fantastic directors, who each introduced their literature at the KYACDA Summer Conference, were

Children's Choir: Kelly Ann Nelson, Cincinnati Boychoir

Middle School/Junior High SSA Choir: Robyn Lana, Cincinnati Children's Choir (ACDA Children's Choir R & S Chair)

Middle School/Junior High SATB Choir: Christopher Eanes, Cincinnati Boychoir

I wish to thank all the teachers who prepared their students for the auditions and for these excellent All-State Choirs! I was very impressed with the quality of the ensembles and the exemplary behavior exhibited by the choir members throughout the event. I heard from numerous students, parents and teachers what a wonderful experience they had. KUDOS to Darrell Parks and Sam Coleman for all the work they put into preparing this exciting event!

## KYACDA helps co-sponsor Men's Choral Events

Dr. Jefferson Johnson, University of Kentucky  
Male Chorus R & S Chair

This past September two men's choral festivals were held in Kentucky, both receiving a small grant from KYACDA. The money helped to defray the cost of hosting these events which were open to middle school, high school, collegiate, adult, church and community choir members. The men sang a variety of music and had an excellent experience!

MMCMM:IV was held at Scott County High School in Georgetown on September 18 and was organized by Brent Merritt and Jamie Wright. (MMCMM:IV means "The fourth Annual Massive Men's Choral Music Mania") They had over 130 men singing together from all around Central and Northern Kentucky.

The Southern Kentucky Men's Choral Festival was held on September 25 and was sponsored by the WKU Collegiate Chapter of ACDA with help from WKU Choral Director, Paul Hondorp, and Bowling Green High School choral director, Maggie Blair.

If you would like to sponsor a similar event and would like some assistance in getting it started, please contact Brent Merritt at [brent.merritt@scott.kyschools.us](mailto:brent.merritt@scott.kyschools.us)

## KMEA Conference Event: KYACDA All-Collegiate Choir

Dr. Greg Detweiler, Morehead State University  
Collegiate R & S Chair

This year the KYACDA All-Collegiate Choir is coordinated by Dr. Greg Detweiler from Morehead State University. He states that more Kentucky colleges and universities will participate this year than in recent years! Our guest director is Gary Graden from Stockholm, Sweden. The All-Collegiate Choir will perform on Thursday evening, February 9, at the Kentucky Center for the Arts in Louisville.

# 2012 KYACDA SUMMER CONFERENCE INFORMATION

Brent Merritt, KYACDA President

The KYACDA Summer Conference, the National ACDA Symposium and the World Choir Games events will be taking place in the Duke Energy Convention Center and surrounding downtown Cincinnati sites – all within an easy walk, and we will be able to participate fully in those sessions featuring stars of the international choral world!

## CLINICIANS

Levente Gyöngyösi, Romania/Hungary  
Ivo Antognini, Switzerland  
Anders Jalkéus Sweden  
Vytautas Miskinis, Lithuania  
Jennifer Tham, Singapore  
Others, including BIG American names you'll know

## HIGHLIGHTS

- The WCG Week One “Champions Concert” will take place on Sunday afternoon. This will feature the winning choirs in each category from the preceding week.
- The WCG “Celebration Concert” will take place on Sunday evening and will feature some absolutely amazing Children’s and Youth Choirs!
- Jazz & Brew...’nuff said!
- Our annual reading sessions for our KYACDA and KMEA All-State Choirs will take place as usual. We will feature our Fall Convocation directors introducing their selected literature.
- More than 360 choirs from over 70 nations are participating in the WCG, which actually begins July 4 and runs through July 14.
- There will be children’s choirs, youth choirs, adult choirs, church choirs, folk choirs, professional choirs, high school choirs, collegiate choirs community choirs, gospel choirs, show choirs, choirs for people with special needs, contemporary a cappella choirs. Over 16,000 choral singers will be participating!

## ACCOMODATIONS

Our official conference hotel is the Hilton, downtown Cincinnati (a beautiful hotel!)

If you only go to ONE Summer Conference...make this THE ONE!

We don’t have all the details; however, we do know that the conference registration cost is built into the hotel cost, and includes all the ACDA sessions and most of the WCG events occurring July 8-10. We will include this information on our registration form when we have it all ready to roll.

## Tentative Costs

- DOUBLE Occupancy (2 beds) TWO NIGHTS will cost approximately \$370.00 each person.
- SINGLE occupancy (1 King) TWO NIGHTS will cost approximately \$610.00.

## Cost includes:

Two nights at the Hilton

Your conference registration including all the ACDA and WCG sessions and events

Lunch each day on site

## MORE INFORMATION TO COME

There are a few areas of great interest that I don’t have the answers to yet. I am hoping to find the answers soon, and will include the information on the website and on the registration forms in the coming months.

- I am still waiting to hear back about prices for “local” members wishing to stay at home and drive in to the conference each day. There will be residential distance restrictions to qualify.
- I am still waiting to hear back about Single Day participation passes.
- I am still waiting to hear back about College Student passes. For several years we have offered the Summer Conference to our College/University music students for free. We cannot offer this conference free of charge, but I’m working on a fair price that will hopefully be affordable to our youngest members.
- I am still waiting to hear back about Spouse prices.

# 2012 KYACDA SUMMER CONFERENCE CLINICIANS

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*The choral conductors/composers listed below are just five of our clinicians from around the world.*

## **Levente Gyöngyösi, Romania**

Levente Gyöngyösi born in 1975 in Klausenburg, Romania. He studied composition with professor *György Orbán* at the Academy of Music in Budapest. His choral pieces are being performed by numerous choirs all over the world. He composes several works also for orchestras: His *III. Symphony* will premier in September 2012 and be performed by the Festival Orchestra Budapest, conducted by Iván Fischer. He won several Hungarian and international composition competitions. His numerous awards also include the *Erkel Ferenc-Prize* (2005), founded by the Hungarian government and the *Bartók-Pásztory-Prize* (2008), awarded by the Academy of Music in Budapest.

## **Ivo Antognini, Switzerland**

Born in Locarno, Switzerland in 1963 Ivo Antognini obtained his degree in piano in 1985 at Lucerne, studying with Nora Doallo. His diploma in piano is followed by studies at the Swiss Jazz School in Berne with pianist Joe Haider. From 1989 to the present day he has composed a multitude of music for television and film. Ivo Antognini has released three jazz albums with his original works. In 2008 he also was awarded two first prizes in Swiss national choral composition competitions: SKJF-09 and Label Suisse. Since 1987 he is Professor of Ear-training and of Complementary Piano in the professional training level of the *Conservatorio della Svizzera Italiana in Lugano*.

## **Anders Jalkéus, Sweden**

Anders Jalkéus from Sweden was born in 1962 and is a founding singer in the vocal group *The Real Group*, a world famous full time professional a cappella group from Stockholm, Sweden. He has studied at the Royal College of Music in Stockholm and has two master degrees, one in music education and one in classical solo singing. He also has studied church music and organ playing. He has been a professional choir singer with the Eric Ericson Chamber Choir and

the Swedish Radio Choir and he has studied choral conducting with Professor Eric Ericson. Mr. Jalkéus is a frequent guest conductor, renowned workshop leader, celebrated lecturer and distinguished adjudicator in competitions all around the world.

## **Vytautas Miskinis, Lithuania**

Vytautas Miskinis, born in 1954, is the Artistic Director of the *Azuoliukas Boys' and Men Choir*, professor of choral conducting at the Lithuanian Academy of Music and president of the Lithuanian Choral Union. He began his career in *Azuoliukas* at the age of seven as a vocalist and continued as Artistic Director from the age of 25. Currently Mr. Miskinis is Artistic Director and Chief Conductor of the All-Lithuanian Choir Festival. He also has lectured and held seminars on music education and conducting in Lithuania and abroad. He has participated in numerous national and international choral events as composer, advisor and adjudicator. Vytautas Miskinis has composed approximately 300 religious motets and approximately 400 secular songs, which are performed by choirs throughout Lithuania and the rest of the world.

## **Jennifer Tham, Singapore**

A professional choir director, Jennifer Tham is best known for her work with the *Singapore Youth Choir* (now the *SYC Ensemble Singers*), which she has directed since 1986. An elected board member of the International Federation for Choral Music, Jennifer helps coordinate the Asia Pacific Working Committee and is part of the Communications and Publications Working Group. An inaugural recipient of Young Artist (Music) Award, given by the National Arts Council (NAC), Jennifer serves on various advisory panels for the NAC and the Ministry of Education, Singapore. In 2011, she was awarded for "Artistic Excellence" by the Composers and Authors Society of Singapore, for her contribution to the growth and development of the Singapore choral music scene.

# Women's Choir Corner

Raye Hurley, Franklin County High School  
KYACDA Women's Choirs R&S Chair



The fall of 2011 has been a busy semester for women's choirs in the Bluegrass. In early September, the University of Kentucky hosted its 12th annual Bluegrass Choral Music Festival. Dr. Jefferson Johnson, Dr. Lori Hetzel, and I directed the Honor Choir, SATB choir, and SSAA ensemble respectively. Over 200 women representing over 20 different high schools participated in this event. The literature performed by the BCMF SSAA choir was:

- **Cantate, Domino** - Nancy Hill Cobb / Santa Barbara
- **Al Shlosha D'Varim** - Allan E. Naplan / Boosey & Hawkes
- **Sing For Joy** - George Frideric Handel / arr. Linda Spevacek / Heritage
- **What Sweeter Music** - Eleanor Daley / Alliance
- **Rhythm Song** - Kirby Shaw / Alfred

November brought us the Kentucky American Choral Directors Association Jr. High All State Choirs, with the SSAA choir being led by Mrs. Robyn Lana. Mrs. Lana performed amazing work with these developing treble voices and chose repertoire that could be implemented in their respective schools. Mrs. Lana is the Founder/Managing Artistic Director and Conductor of the 2008 Scripps Corbett award winning Cincinnati Children's Choir. CCC serves as ensemble-in-residence at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. At CCM, Mrs. Lana sponsors undergraduate interns with the children's choir and mentors graduate choral conducting students. The pieces performed by the KYACDA SSAA choir are listed below, two of which are being performed by the Franklin County High School Beginning Ladies Ensemble this semester.

- **Rattlesnake Skipping Song** - Derek Holman / Boosey & Hawkes
- **Der Herr Segne Euch (from Cantata 196)** - J.S. Bach / adapt. Peter Robb / Colla Voce
- **The Seal Lullaby** - Eric Whitacre / Shadow Water Music
- **Quiet Sea** - Jill Friedersdorf & Melissa Malvar-Keylock / Colla Voce
- **Amazing Grace** - Early American Melody / arr. John Cates, Jr. / Shawnee Press
- **Ev'ry Time I Feel The Spirit** - African American Spiritual / arr. Rollo Dilworth / Hal Leonard

November also provided high school women in our state another performance opportunity at Morehead State University's 52nd Annual Choral Festival. One of the longest running choral festivals in our state, the women's choir this year was under the direction of Mrs. Deborah Prather who is currently the concert music director at Brownsburg High School in Indiana. She has filled R&S Chairs in Women's Choirs for ICDA at the state and regional levels. Ms. Prather has also served the Indiana State Department of Education as a revisionist for state standards. She has been an adjunct professor at DePauw University as a choral methods instructor. Below are the musical selections performed at this festival.

- **I Hear Sweet Music** - Andrea S. Klouse / Alliance
- **Cedar Swamp** - arr. Jay Broeker / Santa Barbara
- **Wana Baraka** - arr. Shawn L. Kirchner / Santa Barbara
- **Sudden Light** - Donna Gartman Schultz / Pavane
- **Still I Rise** - Rosephayne Powell / Gentry

As R&S Chair, I would like to enlist your help to compile a quality list of SSAA literature that could be shared across our state. I would like to include your suggestions in my next article. Send your suggestion(s) with appropriate categorization (Easy, Medium, Difficult) to [raye.hurley@franklin.kyschools.us](mailto:raye.hurley@franklin.kyschools.us). If you are like me, you may have a few "staple" pieces that you always go to for your ladies. However, you may also want to include some pieces that you aspire to program in the future. Thank you for your help in this endeavor.



## Voices in Harmony

Katie Cook, Highland Heights High School  
KYACDA Vocal Jazz/Show Choir/Pop R&S Chair

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As the pop a cappella genre is gaining momentum throughout the United States, thanks in part to NBC's *The Sing Off*, organizations like the Contemporary A cappella Society of America (CASA), and the collegiate a cappella scene, it is becoming more important for pop a cappella groups to appear in school choral programs. As choral music educators we do not want to take away from the benefits of the traditional choral education, but it is important to present new opportunities to our students. Pop a cappella, when done well, can serve as both a fun and challenging performance opportunity for our students. Recognizing the popularity of pop a cappella groups, Adam Beeken and Rob Vanover, directors at Lexington Catholic High School, decided to offer groups from all over Kentucky the chance to bring their best a cappella pieces and perform for, learn from, and enjoy other a cappella groups.

Last year was the first year for the *Voices in Harmony Concert* at LCHS and it was a huge hit with performing groups from Lexington Catholic High School, Paducah Tilghman High School, Scott County High School, University of Kentucky, Eastern Kentucky University, Western Kentucky University, Transylvania University, Centre College, and Xavier University performing. Adam Beeken explained that they started the event to give groups a place to come and share, but also to learn from each other. This year the event will be over 2 days (March 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>) and will include a collegiate competition, a high school competition, and workshops ranging from vocal percussion to movement, and arranging from some of the best people in the pop a cappella business. If you've considered starting an a cappella group at your school, this event can serve as a great resource and jumping off point. Anyone can attend as an audience member and workshop attendee, but if your school has a group you would like to bring registration is open until February 3rd.

The culminating concert will be Saturday night with The House Jacks, the group founded by Deke Sharon. Sharon is commonly referred to as the father of the pop a cappella movement. He is an avid arranger and is one of the musical producers of *The Sing Off*.

Visit <http://www.lexingtoncatholic.com/2012voicesinharmony.html> for more information about the *Voices in Harmony* weekend. I'm excited to attend this year and hope to see many familiar faces there!

## ...Letter from the Director

Adam Beeken, Lexington Catholic High School

I am excited to announce and invite you to come to *Voices in Harmony* on March 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> at Lexington Catholic High School. *Voices in Harmony* is a regional pop a cappella event that feature a series of concert/competitions and workshops. Participating high school and college groups will not only perform and compete but also will be able to see what many other groups are doing and attend a series of workshops. Some of the top names in contemporary a cappella will be featured as performers and clinicians. Students and directors should leave the event having a broader perspective of pop a cappella and a better concept of what musical and performance excellence entails. Much more detailed information and registration forms are available at the following website <http://www.lexingtoncatholic.com/2012voicesinharmony.html>. It is worth mentioning that the headliner group is *The House Jacks* which include Deke Sharon as one of their members. He is the most widely known pop a cappella arranger in the United States and has served as the music producer for all three season's of NBC's *The Sing Off*.

KYACDA is offering support to this event with some financial scholarships for Kentucky groups to participate. If you are planning on having your group participate please contact Adam Beeken at [abeeken@lexingtoncatholic.com](mailto:abeeken@lexingtoncatholic.com) and request use of scholarship funds to help your group participate in this event. Contact Adam if you have any questions.

## **ACDA SOUTHERN DIVISION CONFERENCE = AWESOME**

The ACDA Southern Division Conference will be held February 29 – March 3 in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, and the conference schedule looks AWESOME! Go to [www.acda.org](http://www.acda.org) and check out the conference schedule. I'm really looking forward to enjoying performances by the UK Men's Chorus under the direction of Dr. Jefferson Johnson, the UofL Collegiate Chorale under the direction of Dr. Kent Hatteberg and a session led by Dr. Brad Almquist and the Murray State University Concert Choir! Kentucky will be very well represented at this conference!

*Plan to attend the KYACDA Reception at 10:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 1 in the Conference Hotel where we will celebrate the accomplishments of our own UK, UofL and MSU choirs and enjoy visiting together!*

If you haven't registered yet, *there is still time, but it is running short.* Registration cost for the 2012 Southern Division ACDA is \$225.00. The conference hotels may have rooms available. If not, there are other hotel options available on the informational site.

### DIRECTIONS for ACDA Southern Division CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Go to [acda.org](http://acda.org)  
LOG IN (you must log in to register)  
Go to the Conference Link  
On the LEFT HAND SIDE of the conference page it will say "ELECTIONS/REGISTRATION"  
Click on the SOUTHERN DIVISION link and follow the registration directions.

## **Upcoming ACDA Events -Mark Your Calendar-**

**ACDA Southern Division Conference**  
Winston-Salem, North Carolina  
February 29-March 3, 2012

**National Symposium on Choral Music**  
Washington, DC  
June 29-30, 2012

**KYACDA Summer Conference/  
World Choir Games**  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
July 8-10, 2012

## **CALL FOR ARTICLES**

Articles, upcoming events, and advertisements for the Spring/Summer 2012 issue of *The Kendorctor* may be submitted to Tiffany Marsh, KYACDA newsletter editor, at: [tiffany.marsh@franklin.kyschools.us](mailto:tiffany.marsh@franklin.kyschools.us)

Please submit articles in Word format.

Times New Roman or similar standard font,  
11- point size is preferred.

Advertisements should be submitted print ready.

**Spring/Summer 2012 submissions deadline: April 10**



**July 4-14, 2012**  
[www.worldchoirgames.com](http://www.worldchoirgames.com)