



Tempo!

Tempo! is published by the Michigan School Vocal Music Association to provide programming and activity information to its members monthly.

MAY 2023

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

June 1 | Registration Deadline for Choral Student Leadership Conference

June 9 | Nonprofit of the Night at the Detroit Tigers

June 10 | Board of Directors Meeting at Holiday Inn Express & Suites Detroit - Novi, 9 AM

June 21 | Choral Student Leadership Conference

Choral Student Leadership Conference

The time is now to register for the MSVMA 2023 Choral Student Leadership Conference

Registration deadline is June 1

[MSVMA Choral Student Leadership Conference Information](#)

Leaders come in all shapes and sizes...outstanding musical leadership, choir spirit and motivational leaders and those who have great potential but just aren't sure how to be a "leader". All these wonderful qualities describe the types of students we hope you will send to the 2023 Conference.

This year the conference is being held at Eastern Michigan University at the Honors College Auditorium and Reception Hall on Wednesday, June 21. We appreciate Dr. Brandon Johnson's willingness to host this conference. We are especially excited to have **Coty Raven Morris** as our conference leader. If you are not familiar with Coty's work, please check out her website.

Each high school program is invited to send up to ten of your high school students to the conference. The registration fee is \$50 per student. This fee includes all materials and lunch. Our goal is to bring at least 100 students together to learn from each other and be inspired by Coty. Don't miss out on this opportunity to empower your students to build life skills that will help them, and you, inside and out of the choir room.

Submitted by Wendee Wolf-Schlarf, MSVMA Choral Student Leadership Conference Coordinator

MSVMA Board of Directors Meeting

**Saturday, June 10
9 AM**

**Holiday Inn Express & Suites Detroit - Novi
39675 W 12 Mile Rd, Novi, MI 48377**

A reminder that members are welcome to attend. If members would like to speak at the meeting, there will be time for sharing thoughts or ideas with the Board at the beginning of the meeting.

Register Today for Summer Conference



The banner features the MSVMA logo on the left, which includes the text "MSVMA Michigan School Vocal Music Association Educate. Empower. Experience. the art of vocal music." To the right, the dates "JULY 26 & 27, 2023" are displayed above the large, stylized text "SUMMER CONFERENCE". Below this, the location "BLUE WATER CONVENTION CENTER" is written.



**Dr. Brad Holmes
Headliner**

Reestablishing Unity of Sound – a post COVID challenge

As we deal with the residual effects of COVID, how are we reconnecting our singers? In addition to addressing the foundations of choral production, the session will explore ways to reconnect students and improve the ensemble skills of listening, imitating and adjusting the sound.

What Was That Composer Thinking? – Interpretive risks vs. 'being right'

How do we as conductors balance our artistic statements with that of the composer? How do we avoid overshadowing the music while still saying something relevant? Are we merely grammarians or do we have a story to tell? The session will explore the balance between technique and interpretive choices.

“And Burst into A Song” – The unmatched spirit of Early American music

What is it about Early American music that is so fascinating? Why has this music found adherents in shape-note societies across the country and even other countries? The session will explore the interesting ways this music might be used in concert and classroom. Issues of tonal variance and programmatic possibilities will also be a part of this session.

MSVMA Conference Registration

Registration includes: Entrance to all sessions, music for your interest sessions, and select meals onsite.

Early Bird Registration

- 1 Day Conference Pass | \$85
- 2 Day Conference Pass | \$170
- 1 Day Non-Member Conference Pass | \$170
- 2 Day Non-Member Conference Pass | \$210

Registration

- 1 Day Conference Pass | \$110
- 2 Day Conference Pass | \$220
- 1 Day Non-Member Conference Pass | \$205
- 2 Day Non-Member Conference Pass | \$290
- First Year Teacher | \$100
- Full-Time Student | \$100
- Emeriti/Retiree | \$100

2023 Summer Conference Sessions

Choose from breakout sessions that enhance your knowledge and your students' learning environment.

Register Now

To make reservations visit www.porthuron.doubletree.com. In the field provided, enter group code: **MSV** or call the hotel directly at 810-984-8000 and mention the group code MSV. Discounted rooms are available until June 24.

A Cappella Festival



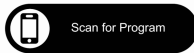
This was the 8th annual A Cappella Festival. It is a non-adjudicated festival designed to celebrate the craft of Pop A Cappella, and open to ensembles of all levels.

The A Cappella Festival event featured performances of genres such as jazz, barbershop, novelty, pop, contemporary a cappella, etc. With performances by All Naturals, Unaccompanied Minors, Skyline Blues, Cantandres, A Cappella Choir, and Bel Canto.

Skyline High School, Grand Blanc High School, South Lyon High School, and Centennial Middle School.

Submitted by Lyn CieChanski, Director of Specialized Events

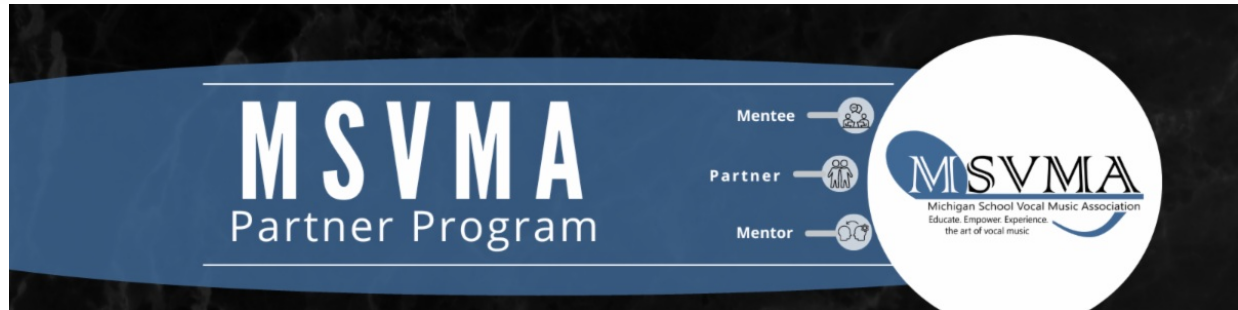
All-State Festival



Enjoy the performances showcasing the Musical Theatre Honors Ensemble, Outstanding Choirs, Outstanding Soloist, Vocal Solo and Ensemble Recitals and All-State Festival Honors Choir on our [MSVMA Facebook](#).

A Special Edition of Tempo! celebrating the accomplishments of Michigan vocal music students and directors at All-State Festival will be published on May 22.

Partner Program Established



Sign-Up for the MSVMA Partner Program is now open through August 15!

Visit the MSVMA website for more information: [Partner Program](#) or by clicking on the Professional Development tab. [Click here](#) to sign up for a Fall Partnership.

Submitted by Sarah Stockton, President-Elect

Volunteer Spotlight



Amy Schroeder

STATE CHORAL FESTIVAL COORDINATOR

How long have you volunteered for MSVMA?

I have been volunteering for MSVMA for five years.

What is your favorite choral piece that you've directed or sung?

I Am Not Yours by Z. Randall Stroepe. He was the director of my senior year MSVMA All-State choir and singing that piece was a life-changing moment for me!

What do you like to do with your free time outside of changing lives through music education?

I am passionate about travel! I am adding my fourth continent to my list this summer. I also love reading thrillers, dancing, coaching color guard, and spending time with my husband and dog.

What advice would you give to a young teacher?

We don't just teach music; we teach kids. Put the well-being of your students first. Don't compare yourself to other teachers or programs, because they aren't your students in your community. If you are doing what is best for you and your students, you can rest assured you are doing what is right!

Meet your District Managers



Dustin Morris
DISTRICT 11 MANAGER

Favorite Food: My favorite food is dark green leafy things.

Fun Fact: My older brother once placed me in the clothes dryer and turned it on.

Hobbies: I like games like poker and Dungeons and Dragons.

Favorite TV Show: My favorite TV show is Band of Brothers.

Favorite Book: My favorite book is the Master and Commander series.

Your #1 song that gets replayed (or song that you'll sing your heart out too): My favorite song is a cheesy karaoke jam, Africa by Toto.

Announcements



Blue Lake Now Enrolling Choir students in All Sessions

Rising 9th – 12th graders and graduating seniors: June 21 - July 2 & July 5 - July 16

Rising 7th – 9th graders: July 19 - July 30 & August 2 - August 13

What is happening at [Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp](#) this summer? You'll find the same great arts opportunities that have defined our instructional program since its earliest years, and a two-week dance intensive is the perfect way to boost enthusiasm in your students before returning to the classroom next fall. With programs in Choir, Dance, Jazz, Piano, Harp, Art, Creative Writing, and Theater, Band, and Orchestra, offering 11 majors, 30 minors, 4 sessions, and many great options for students from beginning and advanced, there's something for everyone.

Blue Lake's Choir Program is designed to challenge students of all proficiency levels. Our highly regarded faculty provide a wide range of instructional and performance opportunities. Students explore repertoire from a variety of musical styles and historical periods while refining fundamental skills in sight singing, breath management, tone production, stage presence, diction, solo and ensemble singing, and basic musicianship. Vocalists will be grouped by ability in either the SATB Choir or one of two SSA(A) Choirs based upon audition. Advanced students will also be placed in the Chamber Choir led by: Dr. Erin Colwitz, Northern Michigan University; Dr. Amon Eady, Central Michigan University; and Dr. Steven Hankle, University of Dayton.

Choir Scholarships remain available!

Help us distribute our remaining scholarship funds. Do you have a student who is interested in camp but cannot be able to afford the tuition? A Blue Lake scholarship may be able to help. 2023 funds remain available for enthusiastic students who apply through the Merit, Financial Need applications.

Students Can Apply Independently: Students can apply independently for all [Scholarships](#), including Merit and Financial Need.

Nominate a Student: You may nominate a student for an Arts Educator Award valued at \$415 toward Blue Lake's camp tuition for all arts areas and instruments. Visit [Arts Educator Nomination](#) to complete the application. These introductory scholarships are only available to new-to-Blue Lake

students who are not currently enrolled.

Schedule a Scholarship Representative: Our representatives are available through early June! Contact the Scholarship Office at scholarships@bluelake.org or 800.221.3796 x202 to request a visit from a Representative in your area. Presentations are also available via Zoom.

Share Blue Lake today!

bluelake.org

800.221.3796



**Rackham Choir High School Vocal
Internship Program Auditions
September 2023 - May 2024 Season**

Saturday, June 17, 2023 @ First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak

The Rackham Choir High School Vocal Internship Program is pleased to announce auditions for its upcoming 2023-2024 Season. The program is designed to support students with exceptional vocal talent and commitment who are entering their sophomore, junior, or senior year of high school in Fall 2023 and who aspire to study music, musical theater, or music education in college. Please pass along this information to students who could benefit from this program!

Selected Rackham Choir High School Vocal Interns will:

- Receive a scholarship toward private vocal instruction with a private instructor.
- Enjoy full membership in Rackham Choir with dues waived for the 2023-2024 season (rehearsals typically Tuesdays 7 PM-9 PM).
- Rehearse and perform under the baton of Maestro Brandon Waddles, Rackham's Artistic and Music Director and Assistant Professor of Choral Conducting & Music Education at Wayne State University.
- Receive coaching with Maestro Waddles and collaborative pianist and instructor Julian Goods in preparation for college or conservatory auditions.
- Master class performances with Rackham Choir artists serving as clinicians.
- Be a featured soloist in a spring concert showcasing the Rackham Choir High School Vocal Interns.
- Receive mentoring by adult members of the Rackham Choir.

To be considered for an audition, the student must:

- Be in good academic standing.
- Submit the enclosed application and letter of recommendation (submitted by author) prior to June 3, 2023 to administration@rackhamchoir.org.
- Submit video recording(s) of two (2) contrasting musical selections - any genre of classical or musical theater music appropriate for young voices is acceptable. Selections must be memorized. Video recordings should be uploaded to this link:
www.dropbox.com/request/h67dpjY3Qc0tqa9byxzB

Finalists will be invited to the live final auditions at First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak; 529 Hendrie Blvd, Royal Oak, MI 48067 on Saturday, June 17, 2023. Alternate live audition times can be arranged in June if necessary. Singers who are awarded the Rackham Choir High School Vocal Internship will be required to maintain good academic standing, attend Rackham rehearsals, and attend voice lessons.

Click [HERE](#) for the Application Form

To find out more about Rackham Symphony Choir, visit www.rackhamchoir.org. Please contact us at 515-720-7034 or administration@rackhamchoir.org for additional information.

Submitted by Isabel Allaway

Verdi Opera Theatre of Michigan

The 29th edition of the Italian Songs and Arias Vocal Competition for Michigan High School Students was held at the Italian Club of Livonia Banquet Hall on Sunday, April 30.

The first place prize was awarded to Isaiah Gallegos. Caleb Mienk and Piper Dee were deemed worthy of receiving second place awards.



John Zaretti, President of the Verdi Opera Theatre of Michigan, announcing the results of the competition.



2023 First Prize Winner of Verdi Opera's Italian Songs and Arias Vocal Competition.

Want to submit a story for Tempo!

 feedback@msvma.org

MSVMA Sponsors

The Michigan School Vocal Music Association is proud to be supported by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA) and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).



To become an MSVMA sponsor, contact Executive Director Erik Jacobson at erikjacobson@msvma.org.



MSVMA | P.O. Box 1131, Big Rapids, MI 49307

[Unsubscribe debrajacks@msvma.org](mailto:debrajacks@msvma.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by info@msvma.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!