



# *Tempo!*

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

DECEMBER 2022

---

## **Upcoming Events and Deadlines**

December 23 | Musical Theatre Honors Ensemble Registration Deadline

December 31 | All-State Music Theatre Honors Ensemble application deadline (midnight)

January 7, 2023 | 6-7-8-9 Honors Choir Rehearsal

January 18, 2023 | Musical Theatre Honors Ensemble Rehearsal at MMC

January 19, 2023 | 6-7-8-9 Honors Choir Rehearsal & Performance

January 19, 2023 | HS State Honors Choir Rehearsal at MMC

January 20, 2023 | HS State Honors Choir Rehearsal at MMC

**Board of Directors and Teacher of the Year Elections**

# Vote today!

Voting for board elections and teacher of the year will be open from December 15 - January 12

Click the links below to see the candidates and then don't forget to vote.

[2023 Election Nominees](#)



## Cast Your Vote!



**2023 MSVMA  
Board Elections**



**2022 Teacher of  
the year**



**Click here to register for the 2023 Michigan Music Conference today!**

Early Bird Rate for Friday/Saturday - \$110 and after December 16 - \$140

If you can only attend ONE DAY of the conference -

\$80 Early Rate; \$105 after December 16

Registration is now open for the 2023 Michigan Music - January 19 - 21.

The conference is in Grand Rapids with sessions and performances being held at DeVos Place, Amway Grand Hotel and the J.W. Marriott.

MSVMA will be featuring Dr. Derrick Fox as our 2023 MMC Headliner. Dr. Fox is not a stranger to Michigan as during his time attending Michigan State University he served as a highly sought clinician and festival adjudicator. He is currently teaching at the University of Nebraska-Omaha. Diversity and Inclusion in Action is our theme and will be the focal point for interest sessions being presented. Dr. Fox is a dynamic educator presenting several interest sessions on Friday and Saturday.

## **Pre-Conference Opportunities - Thursday, January 19**

### **MSVMA Choral Conducting Symposium**

Dr. Erin Colwitz, Headliner

Director of Choral Activities at Northern Michigan University

**9 AM – 11 AM**

**Additional fee for this session; fee does not include lunch**

\$40 - Conducting Member; \$20 - Observer Member

### **MSVMA Collegiate Networking Sessions**

**4 PM – PM**

**There is no additional fee for these sessions, pre-registration is requested**

### **All Conference College Fair**

**5:30PM - 6:30 PM**

**Ambassador Ballroom**

**There is no additional fee for this activity.**

High school students participating in the MSVMA Honors Choirs and MSBOA All-State ensembles will have an opportunity to learn more about how to be involved in music at college 5:30 - 6:30 PM - Ambassador Ballroom. Parents/families are welcome to attend this as well.

There will be a general information session at 5:30 pm presented by Colleen Conway with the opportunities to visit with various colleges/universities representatives following the presentation.

### **All Conference Exhibit Hall “Welcome Back” Celebration**

**7:00 - 9:00 PM**

**Exhibit Hall**

**There is no additional fee for this reception**

All MMC attendees are welcome to browse the exhibit booths from 7 AM - 9 PM at this “Welcome Back” Celebration. This is a wonderful opportunity to explore the vendors who support our industry at a time where you will not have a conflict with a concert or interest session.

### **Technology Pre-Conference**

**9:00 am – 3:00 pm**

**Additional fee for this session; fee does not include lunch**

A selection of practical and hands-on sessions relevant to all levels of instruction and tech proficiency. Attendees are encouraged to BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) and your real-world questions for some instant answers and creative networking solutions. Clock hours are available:

- Empowering Your Students - Addressing SEL (9 AM - 9:45 AM)
- Tech Resources for the Performance Classroom (9:00 AM - 9:45 AM)

- Finale 27 for Your Classroom Needs (10 AM - 10:45 AM)
- Editing Video with YouTube and TikTok (10 AM - 10:45 AM)
- Tech Q&A: MMC Technology Committee (11 AM - 11:45 AM)
- Technology in Your Class in a Post-Pandemic World (1 PM - 1:45 PM)
- Make and Take Session - Create Portfolios, Hyperdocs, Playlists, and More (1 pm - 3 pm)
- Do Your Students Know What You Think They Know? (2 PM - 2:45 PM)

There are many wonderful opportunities for meaningful professional development and connecting with colleagues from around the state at the 2023 MMC.

Don't miss out on all the inspiring fun!

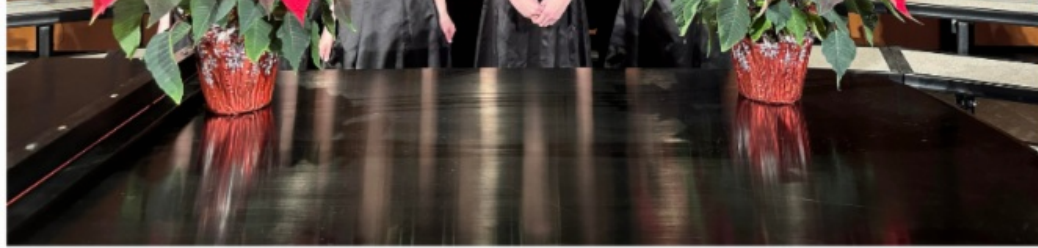
**Submitted by Wendee Wolf-Schlarf**

## MSVMA Grant Awards



Members of Bella Voce from Charlotte High School wearing their new uniforms, courtesy of the MSVMA mini-grant.

Bella Voce is one of two new ensembles in Charlotte, featuring intermediate to



advanced treble voices.

**Submitted by Zach Everly  
Charlotte Public Schools**

## Specialized Festivals

### **All-State Music Theatre Honors Ensemble**

MSVMA is proud to announce the return of the MSVMA All-State Music Theatre Honors Ensemble, which will be directed by Catherine A. Walker from the University of Michigan!

Twenty students will be selected to perform in the MSVMA All-State Music Theatre Honors Ensemble with rehearsals on January 18 (Grand Rapids, MI) and May 11 (East Lansing, MI) and an evening performance on May 11 at the MSVMA All-State Festival. Students who have received a First Division (I) Rating at the MSVMA Music Theatre Solo and Ensemble Festival are eligible to audition for this special opportunity!

The audition form and the audition video must be submitted by midnight on December 31st. In order to audition, students will need to pay a \$25, non-refundable audition fee. See the directions and link below.

Students must complete all requirements listed on the application ([CLICK](#)

[HERE FOR APPLICATION](#))\_and submit (within the form) a 32 bar cut of your musical theatre solo in an unlisted youtube video by December 31, 2022 to be considered. If selected, you will be working with skilled clinicians to create a powerful musical theatre performance representing the best MT students in the state of Michigan. Students will be screened by a panel of judges.

If selected, you will be attending an all-day rehearsal workshop on January 18, 2023 at the Michigan Music Conference in Grand Rapids and an all-day rehearsal on Thursday, May 11, 2023 at the MSVMA All-State Festival followed by a performance at the Thursday night All-State Festival Gala concert.

Remember, the deadline to complete the application for this amazing opportunity is 11:59 p.m. on December 31, 2022.

Questions can be directed to [lynciechanski@msvma.org](mailto:lynciechanski@msvma.org)

**Submitted by Lyn CieChanski, Director of Specialized Festivals**

---

## *Verdi Opera Theatre of Michigan*

### **29th Annual Italian Songs and Arias Vocal Competition**

The Verdi Opera Theatre of Michigan is pleased to announce its 2023 Annual Italian Songs and Arias Vocal Competition for Michigan high school students is open and accepting entries. Information for students to participate in this exciting event can be accessed through the Verdi Opera's website at Verdi Opera Theatre

Advance information is being sent to Michigan high school vocal music teachers, as well as to private music teachers and other related entities to encourage participation in this prestigious competition which has earned a reputation as the oldest and one of the top vocal competitions for young student vocalists in our state.

The deadline to submit student entries is February 18, 2023. Ten finalists will be selected, and will perform live at the Concert of the Finalists, to be held at the Italian American Club of Livonia, on Sunday, April 30, 2023 at 4 p.m.

The winner of the Competition will receive \$1,000, and all the finalists will receive a monetary prize and other valued support. Most importantly, every participant in the competition will be able to explore the wonderful world of classical Italian songs and opera arias to test their talent in this challenging art form.

The Verdi Opera's commitment is to encourage and assist the development of young vocal music students through our annual vocal competition, by awarding scholarship prizes, and by providing opportunities for these emerging young talents to perform at our concerts. This has resulted in the rewarding experience of several of these young singers being engaged to perform with major opera companies, including New York's Metropolitan Opera and Milan's La Scala, as well as with the Detroit Opera and other prominent opera companies.

Bravissimi!





## **First Ever Award Competition for Musical Theatre Artists with Michigan ties, ages 20 – 28**

Lansing Matinee Musicale, a 128-year-old arts organization based in Lansing, Michigan has announced the formation of the LMM Emerging Artist Award for Musical Theatre for artists between the ages of 20–28 with strong ties to Michigan. The competition, with a deadline of January 15, 2023, is seeking the very best emerging Musical Theatre artists from Michigan.

The award was the brainchild of two LMM members, Laura Stebbins, an Okemos-based singer and vocal instructor and Patrice VanVoorhees, the founder of The Studio Performing Arts Center in East Lansing.

“Our competitions for Young/Emerging Artists have previously concentrated on classical voice, piano, strings, woodwinds, and brass,” said Stebbins. “We thought it was time to lend a hand to those emerging into the non-classical job market, and we are excited about this venture.”

“It is extremely difficult and expensive for a young artist to keep up their skill levels in all three fields (acting, dancing, singing) in a big city like New York, Chicago, or Los Angeles, and we would like to help facilitate that”, Van Voorhees said of the award.

The connection to Michigan could include being a current or past resident, being born or raised, or having gone to school in Michigan. Applicants do not need to currently live in Michigan to qualify but must be able to prove their ties to the state.

The awards are substantial, with a total of \$4,000 being awarded to the top three finalists and made possible through the Lee C. and Mildred Richardson Scholarship

Fund.

The deadline for applying for the awards is January 15, 2023, with the final round on April 15, 2023, to be performed in front of a live audience in Lansing, Michigan. Venue and time of performance to be determined at a later date.

One of the Mid-Michigan's oldest arts organizations, Lansing Matinee Musicale (LMM) will celebrate its 129th anniversary and 70th year as a 501(c) (3) charitable organization in 2023.

LMM is operated by volunteer members and supported by charitable gifts and bequests. The organization belongs to both the Michigan and National Federations of Music Clubs. More Information on eligibility requirements, repertoire guidelines, FAQs, and application can be found at: <https://lansingmatineemusical.org/national-musical-theatre-competition/>

**Contact: Laura Stebbins (517) 349-3856;  
Lmm.emergingartists@gmail.com**



State Office will be closed from  
December 21 - January 3

## 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](mailto:erikjacobson@msvma.org).

