



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

April 13, 2017

TO: Fine Arts Contacts

FROM: Cheryle C. Gardner
Principal Specialist of Fine Arts

SUBJECT: Supt.'s Memo #109-17--2017 The Art of Vocal Music Institute

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE), in partnership with the Virginia Coalition for Fine Arts Education and the Virginia Music Educators Association, is pleased to offer the 2017 *The Art of Vocal Music Institute* on July 11-14, 2017, at Virginia Commonwealth University. This four-day Institute is provided at no cost to selected public sector educators and includes campus residence housing, meals, materials and supplies, instruction, registration, and parking in accordance with state travel regulations. The VDOE will not provide travel reimbursement to participants. K-12 vocal music educators will be selected based on instructional training and experience in vocal music education and balanced regional representation.

The purpose of the Institute is to provide intensive study in the vocal arts. The program will offer participants rehearsal protocols and observations of students in the middle and high school chorus groups attending the Vocal Arts Project sponsored by the Department of Music Education, Virginia Commonwealth University. The two choruses, Festival and Chamber, will be conducted by Philip Keirstead, Prince William County Public Schools and David Brunner, a nationally recognized conductor. Also, Mr. Keirstead and Dr. Brunner will serve as clinicians for the Institute.

In addition, the Institute will provide sessions in reading, rehearsal protocols, conducting, riser choreography, vocal *Music Standards of Learning* curriculum development, developing music literacy, harmonization, and vocal health. Participants will also attend a Sight-Reading Factory Software training session and be provided resources to use in their classroom. At the conclusion of the Institute, each participant will be awarded 90 points for licensure renewal, pending local approval.

All nominees who wish to attend this Institute must download and complete the application found on the VDOE's [Fine Arts](#) webpage. Applications must be signed by a school administrator prior to submission. Completed applications must be submitted by May 5, 2017, to Cherry Gardner, Principal Specialist of Fine Arts, Virginia Department of Education, [P.O. Box 2120, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2120](#) or by email at Cherry.Gardner@doe.virginia.gov. Selected educators will be notified by email by May 25, 2017.

If you have questions, please contact Cheryle C. Gardner, Principal Specialist of Fine Arts, Office of Humanities and Early Childhood, by email at Cherry.Gardner@doe.virginia.gov or by telephone at (804) 225-2881.

Thank you.

CCG/ccg