

# VIRGINIA CHORAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION

*a division of*

## Virginia Music Educators Association

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### VCDA BUSINESS MEETING

VMEA Conference – The Homestead

Friday, November 20, 2009

**I. Call to Order**

VCDA President, Sherri Matthews, called the meeting to order at 5:15pm.

**II. Introduction of Officers**

President–Sherri Matthews

Treasurer–Jen Penserga

Vice President–Lois Castonguay

President-Elect–Lisa Pennington

Secretary–Mandi Townley

**III. Confirmation of Agenda**

Motion by Lynne Babcock; second by Walter Krushinski. Agenda approved with meeting date correction.

**IV. Review of Motion and Voting**

Sherri stated that only members may vote and that motions must be made in writing on the forms which were available.

**V. Roll Call by Districts**

District	Attendance	Chair	District	Attendance	Chair
I	5	yes	IX	16	yes
II	5	yes	X	3	yes
III	5	yes	XI	4	yes
IV	2	no	XII	12	yes
V	11	yes	XIII	1	no
VI	11	yes	XIV	2	yes
VII	9	yes	XV	7	yes
VIII	4	yes	XVI	8	yes

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### VI. Reports

#### A. Secretary's Report

Report was amended to show District chairs from 10 and 16 were present at April meeting. Approval motion by Dorothy Logan, seconded by Robin Duncan. Report was approved.

#### B. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report was presented by Jen Penserga. The balances are \$58,996.25 in the General Fund, and \$-6,698.22 in the All-Virginia Fund. The deficit is due to money being spent for All-VA costs without fees being collected. The total account balance is \$67,331.69. To keep the membership informed, we are looking to move our CDs into higher interest bearing accounts. We are also looking for a new Virginia bank that is more user friendly. If you have suggestions, let Jen know. Reminders regarding event reports: If you have questions, PLEASE ASK FOR HELP!! Jen is available by phone or email, and contact information is on the website. Jen reminded that is MUCH better to ask for help than to make mistakes later. Please pay attention to deadlines! Remember to send copies of event report to all people in the organization that are supposed to receive them.

#### \*\*Special Announcement after Treasurer's report

Beeper Coffman handed out doorprizes for knowing the theme of Music in Our Schools month. Theme for 2010 is "Just Imagine..." She also reminded everyone of the Worlds' Largest concert on March 11.

### VII. Old Business

#### A. Website- Sherri

Scott Lambert is our webmaster. Starting next year, website updates will become the VCDA secretary's responsibility. Our goal is to make the website more user friendly. If you have ideas, please email them to Sherri. If you'd like to add your schools website, send link to Sherri and she'll forward them on to Scott.

#### B. Literature Manual Committee

Lisa recognized the committee members and praised them for a wonderful job! The committee worked hard, for many hours on Thursday evening of conference, to grade submissions accurately. Our manual now has over 3000 pieces. The Submission Form will be modified to include rubric. If you are interested in submitting music, please submit photocopy with form STAPLED to front. Make sure you fill out the form thoroughly. Be mindful of the style of piece. This list is for festival ratings; pieces should be submitted accordingly. The appeal form is online if you disagree with assigned rating. The next opportunity to submit or appeal will be at All-VA chorus in April. The updated manual should be posted in next two weeks. Lisa pointed out that the committee needs more Middle School directors. If interested, please see Lisa. Philip reminded everyone to CHECK the list before submitting pieces to prevent repeat submissions, but that different voicings are different pieces and can be submitted. In future conferences clinicians will be asked to submit pieces from reading sessions.

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### C. Honors Choir

#### 1. Audition Report: Mandi Townley

Thanks for patience with the new kid running auditions. We are well aware of delays in auditions, and are working on some plans to alleviate some of the stresses with long waits. Details will come as decisions are made. 2010 auditions will be held at Longwood University, October 2. Reminder that online form is THE FORM, and paper form should match. No changes made after online form. It removes the human error factor as host does not type ANY information. Please double, triple, quadruple check online form before submitting. Concerns and questions were raised regarding sight-reading key signatures and instructions for accompanists and adjudicators. Mandi addressed that sight-reading procedures are being discussed, and that the accompanists and adjudicators sit through a mock-audition where procedures are publicly discussed. Sherri reminded that if further discussion is required, please see Mandi after the meeting. This is a VMEA event and can be discussed outside of VCDA meeting. Mandi is available by phone or email as needed.

#### 2. Event Report: Terry Hall

Event is going wonderfully, and Dr. Jessop is very pleased. Students are performance ready now! However, some students showed up without music. Please follow communications, pay careful attention to directions, and feel free to email Terry with questions regarding the event to make sure that everyone is prepared. Terry is WELL aware of problems that occurred with rehearsal tracks, and delivered his deepest apologies for the many technical difficulties. He will work to rectify for next year. Next year's Honor's Choir event will be back at Sheraton Waterside in Norfolk. Dr. Keith Hampton will be conductor. Sherri offered a SPECIAL thanks to Terry for heading up this massive event!

### D. All Virginia Chorus 2010

#### 1. Sheraton Premiere at Tyson's Corner

#### 2. April 29 – May 1, 2010

#### 3. All students will be housed at the Sheraton

#### 4. SATB directed by Z. Randall Stroope, SSAA directed by Charlotte Adams

#### 5. ACDA Middle School Choir is at the Sheraton Reston Hotel: Philip Keirstead

#### 6. 11:00 Middle School Concert/ 12:00 High School Concert

Special thanks to Lynne Babcock's husband for assisting in securing the venue for the event. Event will be held at the Sheraton Premiere, because all of the schools large enough to host were unable to commit to hosting. Event is more expensive due to location and region of the state, and will cost \$225/student. Elaine Stanford will be assisting with the event. Detailed information will be emailed to District Rep to distribute.

Phillip discussed Virginia ACDA All-State Middle School auditions. Pay attention to NEW procedures that require students to be registered online. Do not send paper application until you've registered online. Also, you are now able to upload recorded auditions to website. Complete details are available on the website. If CD is mailed, please save waste and don't send the case. Just wrap in paper and send in padded envelope. Conductor for this year is Anton Armstrong from St. Olaf. Middle School students

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will rehearse at Sheraton Reston which is 5 miles away from HS Sheraton Premiere. The students are not required to stay at hotel, but the traffic is bad and kids will have more fun if arrangements are able to be made. We already have 80 applicants. If this online application system works well this year, the entire application will be online in the future. REMEMBER that the online registration deadline is 12/11 at midnight.

Sherri clarified, membership for the Middle School Honor event is NOT VCDA. Teacher MUST be a member of ACDA. Also, the All-VA schedule was distributed. It is a draft but concert times are definite. Please make note of earlier concert times.

### **E. All-VA Rehearsal Commitment Form updated on website**

Form needs to be filled out and turned in at All-VA auditions.

### **F. All-VA Packets**

District Reps or someone from each district needs to see Lisa before leaving to pick up packets.

### **G. All-VA Audition Committee report**

If you have questions or concerns, please email Lynn. [Lynne.Babcock1@fcps.edu](mailto:Lynne.Babcock1@fcps.edu) Thanks to Stephen for the "Shenandoah" arrangement. Special thanks to Phillip for recordings and uploading to websites.

### **H. Voices United Conference- Patrick Walders**

Patrick Walders, President of VA Chapter of ACDA, announced Voices United Conference at GMU August 12-14 with Rodney Eichenberger, Patrick Freer, and Karen Kennedy. Flyers are available from him or at the ACDA table. There is some new and wonderful perform opportunities for teachers and students. The goal is to learn new ideas, and then be able to take and immediately use at beginning of school year. Conducting component will allow teachers to be coached in conducting. Please come! Please join ACDA! Contact Patrick Walders for more information.

## **VIII. New Business**

### **A. Music in Our Schools Month**

Addressed earlier in meeting, after Treasurer's Report.

### **B. Bob Stambeck Award**

Sadly, no one applied for award. Betty Tabor was heartbroken. Sherri reminded that no one wins the award if no one applies. Many use boosters to help pay for students, but membership is encouraged to apply for award in the future. Deadlines for application for award may be changed to after auditions. The Stamback family's hope is that finances will grow to award more students. Also, the "Honor a Teacher" program is there to help build finances. Please use it, so more than one teacher is honored. Please take advantage of the opportunities available to us.

### **C. VMEA Adjudication Committee**

Charlotte McKee thanked districts for feedback on festival rubrics from different states, as well as thanking the committee for all of their work. The committee discussed the feedback received from districts and built a new rubric. When it's finalized, the rubric will be submitted to Sherri and forwarded

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on to District Reps. Rubrics should be distributed at All-District event. The current form will be used this year for adjudication at festival. The new form will be piloted by a non judge at festivals this year. Form will be fine-tuned, finalized, and distributed at All-VA.

### **D. Convention Survey Available online**

Please fill it out. Moe and Linda DO listen to your thoughts and ideas. Today was a long day with no breaks in the VCDA sessions. Please remember, that the VCDA Pres does not control schedule. Moe and Linda listen to feedback. Please submit ideas for sessions, and include as many contact details as possible if specific names are mentioned.

### **E. Professional Responsibilities**

Thank you for help in moving furniture and rooms. It was discovered last year after convention that band guys were moving everything. Band appreciates us helping.

Please wear your badges at conference. It was discovered that people have been attending conference without registering. Conference can't be funded if registration fees aren't paid.

Michael Ehrlich, VMEA President, discussed the importance of meeting deadlines. If schools are denied participation because a deadline was missed, the leadership will support the denial. Michael discussed the practice of making excuses, and addressed the extremely large number of emails he's received regarding missed deadlines. He reminded us that we're ALL very busy. It is our professional responsibility to make the deadlines. Treat our colleagues with respect and pay attention to due dates!

Sherri said THANK YOU MICHAEL for Cantus!! VCDA did contribute as well as VA ACDA chapter. Thank you Jack Aye at Musical Source for music packets!! Jack Aye asked for lists from Districts as soon as possible to prevent scrambling for music later.

Sherri is always available by email, but try to send specific questions to your District Rep first.

Please join committees and help the organization. Many of our committees contain the same members. Your help is needed and appreciated!

### **F. Closing Remarks**

A reminder from question asked; All-VA Audition sight-reading selections will be distributed to District Reps the week before auditions.

Motion to close made by Philip Keirstead. Seconded by Judy Belcher. The meeting adjourned at 6:20pm.