

VIRGINIA CHORAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION

a division of

Virginia Music Educators Association

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VCDA Business Meeting

Friday, November 17, 2023 at 4:45PM

Richmond, Virginia (E21 Convention Center)

<https://meet.google.com/kod-jqrp-sdj> monitored by My-Van Nguyen

- I. **Call to Order – Corbin Pinto**
 - a. Meeting called to order at 4:46 p.m.
- II. **Introduction of Officers – Officers**
 - a. Officers introduced themselves.
 - b. Note the change in Treasurer from Amy El-Khoury to Sherri Matthews
- III. **Confirmation of Agenda – Corbin Pinto**
 - a. Motions added to the agenda will be presented at letter VIII. f.
 - b. Agenda approved
 - i. Victoria Kerper moved, Nigel Tangredi seconded
 - a. Agenda was approved unanimously
- IV. **Review of Motion and Voting – Bill Podolski**

[VCDA Motion Request Form](#) – monitored by Jordan Markwood

- Bill reviewed the eligibility and procedures for making a motion and voting.
- V. **Roll Call by Districts – Jordan Markwood (* indicates representative was present)**

1. 17*	9. 23*
2. 5*	10. 6
3. 10*	11. 6*
4. 7*	12. 7*
5. 7*	13. 7*
6. 16*	14. 6*
7. 5	15. 11*
8. 7*	16. 17*
- VI. **Reports**
 - a. Secretary's Report – Jordan Markwood
[April 2023 Meeting Minutes](#)

- No corrections were suggested and the minutes were accepted as presented

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b. Treasurer's Report – **Sherri Matthews**

[November 2023 Treasurer's Report](#)

- No corrections were suggested and the report was accepted as presented

VII. Old Business

a. VMEA Conference Nov 16-18, 2023 - <https://www.vmea.com/vmeaconference2023>

- i. Headliner: Dr. Madlen Batchvarova – Hanover College
- ii. VCDA reception at 6PM in the Hilton Hotel in the Miller Rhoads room
- iii. VCDA Adjudicator Training by Mary-Hannah Klontz mhsongbird@gmail.com
 - a. Choral Adjudicator Training will be held virtually on Fri. Jan. 19, 7-10 pm.
[More information can be found on our website.](#)

b. Literature Manual Committee – **My-Van Nguyen**

- i. Met on Thursday Nov 17 at 8PM in the Hilton and graded
 - a. My-Van acknowledged individuals that served on that committee.
 - b. The committee graded 170 pieces to be added to the manual.
 - c. An emergency assessment grading session will take place in January. Members should continue to use the same literature manual submission form for any piece you wish to be graded at that time.
 - d. Thank you to everyone that submitted pieces for grading.
- ii. Expansion Committee report
- iii. Known issues with the manual and search functionality. The database is case sensitive. There is a form on the VCDA website to submit errors found in the manual (duplicate entries, typos, etcetera). Currently working with VMEA webmaster to see what improvements can be made to the manual.

c. VMEA Honors Choir Report

i. Audition Chair: **Robin Duncan & Willis Rosenfeld**

- a. Robin & Willis thanked everyone for a smooth process for their first year chairing this event.
- b. A Google form will be sent out welcoming comments about the process and give input about preferring in-person or virtual auditions for next year.

Audition Piece: "I Attempt from Love's Sickness"

ii. Honors Choir Co-Event Chairs - **Joel Shapiro** shapirja@pwcs.edu - **Helai Rutan** Helai.Rutan@lcps.org

2023 Conductor: Dr. Amanda Quist from University of Miami,
Frost School of Music, Accompanist: Mr. Melvin Goodwyn
Performance Saturday, Nov 18th at 1:00PM

- a. Dr. Quist has been amazing and students are having a positive experience. The process has been uplifting and inspirational for the students.
 - b. A feedback form will be sent about the implementation of the online jotform submission for teachers, students and parents in place of paper copies.
- iii. 2024 Conductor: Dr. Jeffery Redding, from University of Central Florida.

d. All-Virginia Chorus 2024 - April 18-20, 2024 in Richmond

- i. [Audition piece](#): Blow, Blow, Thou Winter Wind
 - a. Note - District Representatives should let Corbin know if your District is using an alternate date for the All-Virginia Chorus Auditions if you haven't already done so. This is important to make sure the event chair has the sight-reading examples in time for the auditions.

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- ii. Conductors:
 - a. SATB - Jason Max Ferdinand, University of Maryland, College Park
Commission by: Jason Max Ferdinand
 - b. SSAA - Dr. Pearl Shangkuan, Calvin University
Commission by: Tracy Wong
- iii. Teacher Professional Development - **Evan Ayars** emayars@fcps.edu
 - a. [All-VA Chorus Professional Development](#) Submit proposals by Feb. 10
 - a. Please sign-up and encourage colleagues to share their knowledge with the state by presenting a session at All-VA.

VIII. New Business

- a. **Virginia ACDA Updates - Philip Keirstead** reporting for Meredith Bowen mbowen@vaacda.org
 - i. [Check the website](#) for information about Middle School All VA 2024 and Voices United
 - a. MS All-VA offers two choirs (Treble and Mixed)
 - b. Information and Audition packet is NOW available on the VA-ACDA website.
 - a. Dr. Kari Adams
 - b. Saleel Menon
 - b. **Operation Manual Committee - Bill Podolski** bill.podolski@apsva.us
 - i. [Revised version, along with tracked changes](#)
 - ii. Once membership has had a chance to review the document, our committee would like to host a virtual info meeting on the revision at the start of April, so that members have the chance to ask their questions and discuss the revisions outside of the business meeting. We seek to approve the revised Manual during our April business meeting.
 - a. Bill sent out an interest form for people that would like to contribute to this process and then reviewed the manual with the following intent:
 - a. Three main tenants
 - i. Remove gendered language
 - ii. Remove sections that are outdated and/or not being utilized
 - iii. Reviewed language to make it more universal
 - b. Please review the changes that are being suggested as linked above and the revised version will be brought to a vote in April 2024.
 - c. Thank you for your feedback and support in the process to help keep our organization current and the manual up-to-date.
 - c. **All-VA Audition Piece Committee - Jordan Markwood**
 - i. [Nature's Song Feedback & Updates](#)
 - a. Joe Eveler made a motion to accept Nature's Song into the All-Virginia Chorus Audition Repertoire rotation starting in the 2024-2025 school year.
 - a. Keri Staley seconded the motion
 - b. The motion passed with only two members opposing
 - d. **Choral Assessment Rubric Committee- Mary-Hannah Klontz**
 - i. [Proposed rubric](#)
 - ii. A resource - [A director's guide to choral assessment](#)
 - a. Mary-Hannah acknowledged that video needed to be added to the training since stage presence is part of what is being assessed.
 - b. Mary Hannah noted that some districts were still using the old assessment form that had number totals for each category instead of the current form.
 - c. Districts were also concerned that judges were not being consistent throughout the day so the committee created the Category and Indicator standard sheet to assist.

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- d. The committee reviewed rubrics and processes from different states to consider what changes might work best for our state.
- e. Adjudicator training was moved online to accommodate those who are not able to travel for the in-person training.
- f. Weeknights were difficult for people to attend so the training was moved to Friday night and we will see if that is better for more potential judges to attend.
- g. The cost of the training is \$25 and utilizes only video performances during the training, where previously it only utilized audio examples..
- h. Katy Seidemann made a motion to approve the rubric as presented
 - a. The motion was seconded by Pat Vaughn
 - i. The motion passed with one objection
 - i. Tim Drummond made a motion to approve the rubric to be used from 2024 on.
 - a. The motion was seconded by Robin Duncan
 - b. The motion passed unanimously
- e. **Choral Assessment Sight Reading Committee- CJ Redden-Liotta cjreddenliot@fcps.edu**
 - i. The current Sight Reading committee feels that there are several small changes that can be made to streamline and clarify the sight reading process for both directors and assessment chairs, however, we also feel that they cannot be implemented properly for the March 2024 assessments. The committee will continue to work between now and our April meeting to finalize any proposed changes. [Provide your feedback here](#)
 - a. Please take a moment to review the proposed changes and give feedback using the link above.
 - ii. District Chairs and Assessment Chairs: It is imperative that you keep track of which sight reading examples your choirs choose this year – by level and by key. This will help the committee make some final decisions on our proposals.
 - a. This feedback and extremely important so do not forget to
- f. **Other Motions**
 - No new motions were presented

IX. Closing Remarks

- a. District Representatives - Thank you for your assistance throughout the year, for being room chairs at this event, and for picking up your All-VA music packets after this meeting.
 - i. Pick the boxes up from Mandi in the back

X. Adjournment

- a. Holley Hoey-Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting
 - i. The motion was seconded by Jacob Saunders-Devol
 - ii. The motion passed unanimously