

VCDA District II SEPTEMBER Meeting

AGENDA

Monday, September 14, 2020

via zoom

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- I. **Call to Order** Time: 6:00 PM
- II. **Confirmation of Agenda** Motion: Lynne German
Second: Carl Copon
- III. **Approval of Minutes:** found online at <https://www.vcda2.com/>
Motion: Ashley Landon
Second: Bill Boardman
- IV. **Roll Call by Sign In**
on google form: <https://forms.gle/UBNuAvVxaomphow8>
- V. **New Business**
 - a. Honors Choir Auditions - www.vmea.com/index.php/events-menu/honors-choirs
 - i. Opus events is the platform and tutorials will be provided by the Beginning of October.
 - ii. Pre-registration window is October 26-31. Submission window in the month of November.
 - iii. Results in Dec.
 - iv. Event in January. Will include a meet-up with conductor, Dr. Chris Aspaas, Collegiate panel, sectional rehearsals and virtual performance.
 - v. Performance recordings released in March
 - b. District Chorus Auditions 2020
 - i. Who: Ashley Landon, Sarah Haigh– Co-Chairpersons
 - ii. Benefits of holding: educational value, student and school recognition, results could be used for in-person or virtual event, and HS need for All-VA eligibility
 - iii. Logistics are up to the District and we have some flexibility from the state
 - iv. We can keep them Nov 7th or extend until sometime in Dec (maybe Friday Dec 11)
 - v. “All auditionees may or may not be placed behind a screen, and not seen by the judges, subject to each District’s preference.” From the operations manual
 - vi. Issues to consider:
 - vii. How to collect the audition performances
 - OPUS – like honors choir – does include the possibility for sight reading
 - Digital drop box with the first stop being the teachers.
 - viii. How to collect Money ?????

ix. Judges

1. We pay for judges like normal
2. We trade judging services with District IV
3. We judge for the other level (ie. HS for MS and MS for HS)

Discussion Notes:

Ashley Landon: Option of each teacher doing a dropbox/registration then sending it off to full organization after.

Lynne German: Dropbox being free is a great thing to consider. Students can make payments via Venmo, Zell, Cashapp, etc., where all money would be paid through.

Ashley Landon: Checks would need to come directly from the schools, which means that those avenues wouldn't be able to be used due to the rule in the manual. Money would have to come from the school/through the school's office.

Karla Robinson: If students submit audio/video to a dropbox then potentially students have the option of taking 30 takes. Which is something to consider. If a strictly audio recording is chosen then teachers would need to screen the recordings first to make sure that students are not auditioning for one another.

Lynne German: Second term students, cause a different dynamic with the audio screening that we might not know their voices yet or even spreading the word to those students. I like the idea of keeping it in house and having MS judge for HS and vice versa.

Bill Boardman: December date would be good, to give more time for students to be prepared which helps with the current virtual status.

Corbin: Using Opus where they would be a fee paid directly to the site, fee is dependent on the type of audition that we choose (\$2.50-\$15 depending on what we choose to include in the audition. Also needing to charge the 20 cents for VMEA).

Bill: Is it possible to look at how many students we want to use per ensemble with the judges fee and VMEA fees included into the audition fee. Where we don't actually have to touch the money.

Corbin: Vote to cut sight-reading out of the audition for this school year only in the Zoom Chat. Yes was voted. Same judges listening to the same voice parts is still required, however there is a grading window. So same day rules do not apply as long as all grades are completed within the window.

Sarah Haigh: Having District IV judge for us would be the better option and us judging for them if asked.

Corbin: Dec. 11-Dec.31 to score submissions.

Sarah Haigh: Are we willing to judge for District IV or judge our own district.

Vote: Are we willing to give your time for free to judge either for District IV or in house? Yes was voted.

Vote: Willing to trade services and judge for District IV? Yes was voted.

Corbin: Are we willing to do the Digital Dropbox or go through OPUS?

Ashley Landon: Would Music Administrators be willing to pay for the audition fee for the students in lieu of not paying for Assessments?

Holly Sunderland: Budgets have been cut.

Karla Robinson: Some choirs do require everyone to audition. Might this be the year that choirs do not require that to happen.

Vote: Using Opus for auditions?

Opus has it. Grading our own students or District IV's. More info to come later.

c. VMEA In-Service Conference 2020

- i. When: November 19-21, 2020 Conference will be Thursday evening at 7 PM, Friday starting at 1pm. and Saturday starting at 8 AM
- ii. Pre-registration due by Oct 31 – regular member price \$35!!!
- iii. Because everything is recorded there are 100+ hours of professional development opportunities
- iv. Lobby concert submissions are being encouraged! Details for student submissions will be sent out at the end of Sept.
- v. Headliner is Jonathan Palant from The University of Texas, Dallas - He will present two reading sessions and one general session.

Discussion: Virtual Event or Possibly Cut the Entire Event?

Lynne German: With knowledge upfront and speaking to the conductors who are in mind, that it would be a perfect time to have a virtual event. Perhaps giving one or two songs that they can perform instead of fully cancelling the event.

Carl Copon: How is the Honors Choir doing their virtual event?

Corbin: Paying an audio tech company to do it.

Carl: Is that an avenue that we want to pursue if we do a virtual choir event? We should have a plan, before completely pulling the entire event.

Bill Boardman: Would need to be in contact with the conductors to see if they are willing to do this? Why audition for Districts for a resume? They should get something out of it.

Lynne: Conductors should be able to plan for an event and knowing what they are getting into before the whole event occurs. Virtual is guaranteed right now, physical events are not yet.

Ashley: Date changes for the event are flexible.

Corbin:

Motion: Move to go forward with a Virtual Event for Districts. Time TBD. Sing in real format later depending on the status of things.

Second:Lynne German

Vote: Proceed as a Virtual Event this year.

d. District Chorus Event 2021

- i. When: February 11-13, 2021
- ii. Where: ????
 1. Host: ????
 2. Future District Chorus Sites:

- a. 2022- Ocean Lakes
- b. 2023- Green Run
- c. 2024 - Cox
- d. 2024- Salem
- e. 2025- Kellam
- f. 2026 - Tallwood

iii. Conductors:

- 1. Festival: ?
- 2. HS Treble Choir: McKenna Stenson
- 3. HS Mixed Choir: Bryan Stenson

iv. Who: Carl Copon and Lynne German

v. Registration due: Dec 4

vi. What to do????

- 1. Not required to have one
- 2. Could hold out hope for an in-person event
- 3. Could do a Virtual Choir experience

e. All-Virginia Chorus Auditions 2021

i. When: TBD

ii. Where: TBD

iii. Who: District Chair – Corbin Pinto

iv. Registration due: Fri February 26th ??

f. District Choral Assessment 2021

i. When: March 12-13, 2021 date extending until the end of the school year

ii. Where: Norview HS (Norview HS, 6501 Chesapeake Blvd, Norfolk, VA 23513)

iii. Who: Sarah Tilghman

iv. Registration Due: February 5th ??

v. Maybe a Solo and Ensemble instead

Lynne German: That sounds like a good idea. Actually feasible.

Karla Robinson: Second that, it'd be a nice addition to Assessments normally.

Corbin Pinto: Virginia Beach and Norfolk Music Admin are not in favor of Choral Assessment for this current school year.

g. VMEA All-Virginia Chorus Event

i. When: April 22-24, 2021

ii. Where: Richmond Conference Center

iii. Conductors: SATB - Dr. Paul Head, University of Delaware
SSAA - Dr. Lynn Gackle, Baylor University

Virtual will happen if physical is not able to happen at that point in the year.

iv. ACDA - All-VA Middle School Honor Choir – <https://www.vaacda.org/>

h. **Literature Manual**

We will be working on updating the rubric and removing some insensitive titles. I would like to encourage you to submit at least one piece that was composed by a woman or a person from an ethnicity that is considered in the minority. If you need assistance in the purchase of the sheet music, just let me know. It is my personal agenda to make our VA state choral literature manual more inclusive.

i. To serve on the committee: <https://forms.gle/BkqcCJ433KynjMgLA>

ii. To submit a new piece: <https://forms.gle/KvUuyh5DW7zEzVZQ7>

i. **This is an election year!** So please be thinking if you would like to nominate someone or yourself for the open District 2 VCDA representative for the spring elections.

VI. Motions

VIII. Adjournment

Time: 7:02 PM