February 10, 2007

Dear colleague:

It is with greatest pleasure that I announce the adjudicators for the 2007 TNACDA State Choral Festival! This Festival has for years been a rite of passage for the finest choral ensembles in the state, perpetuating the art of choral music through the comments of nationally-renowned adjudicators. This year is no different as Hilary Apfelstadt of Ohio State University, Daniel Bara of East Carolina University, and John Odom of Starr's Mill High School in Georgia will serve our choirs well. Each of these individuals is highly involved in his/her state's chapter of ACDA, performing at regional and national conventions and by holding leadership roles and offices.

Attached are biographies of these individuals. I know you will respect the collective experience these directors bring to our Festival. I also encourage you to post these bios in your rehearsal space for your students to read – adding a face and identity to the voices they hear will make the entire process more real for them, perhaps increasing the rehearsal level as you and they prepare for the performance. Also attached is the 2007 Festival Registration Form. Please note that the Fee Structure benefits ACDA members, so if you have let your membership expire, make sure to rejoin and take advantage of all ACDA has to offer!

Finally, should you have any questions about the Festival, please do not hesitate to contact me. I believe highly in the benefits this Festival has to offer for our choral programs. By gaining an invitation, your choirs have already proven to be fine ensembles. Through the Festival experience, we continue to strive to make the good better! I hope you have already made plans to attend; if not, I encourage you to do so. Also, if there are others in your district who are not planning to attend, encourage them to do so as well, for we all benefit from collective improvement and dedication. I look forward to working with you at this Festival. Until then, I remain

Brian T. Russell
Choir Director – White House High School
TNACDA High School Repertoire and Standards Chair
Hilary Apfelstadt conducts the Chorale and Women’s Glee Club, supervises Mastersingers, teaches conducting and choral repertory, and coordinates the graduate conducting program at Ohio State University. Dr. Apfelstadt’s collegiate choral ensembles have performed by invitation at regional and national ACDA (American Choral Directors Association) conventions as well as at other educational conferences. Active as guest conductor and clinician, Dr. Apfelstadt has conducted numerous honor choirs and all-state choruses in the U.S., Canada and Cuba. Professor Apfelstadt, who sang for several years with the Robert Shaw Institute Singers, has published more than 70 articles on choral music and education. She serves on the editorial boards of three professional journals, is a past-president of Central Division ACDA, and is a member of the Research and Publications Committee for national ACDA. She is also Director of Music at Linworth United Methodist Church in Columbus. She holds a PhD in Music Education from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, a Masters in Choral music education from the University of Illinois, a Bachelor’s degree in music from the University of Toronto, and the Associate diploma in piano from the Royal Conservatory of Music, Toronto.

Daniel Bara is the director of choral activities and instructor of conducting and choral literature at East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina. A recent recipient of the Robert L. Jones Award for Outstanding Teaching, Dr. Bara heads ECU’s program of four university choral ensembles, administers the master of music degree in choral conducting, and is the founder of the East Carolina University Summer Choral Conducting Institute. He received his doctor of musical arts degree in conducting from the Eastman School of Music, where he was also awarded the Walter Hagen Conducting Prize in May 2001. That year, he also won the ACDA National Student Conducting Competition (Graduate Division) in San Antonio, Texas. Dr. Bara is president-elect of NCACDA and is past R&S chair for Community Choirs in North Carolina. In increasing demand as a conductor and clinician, he served on the faculty of the Eastman Summer Conducting Institute at the Eastman School of Music during July 2003, and he is on the summer conducting and choral faculty at Interlochen Arts Camp in Interlochen, Michigan. He enjoys an active schedule of guest conducting appearances with middle and high school honor choirs, and he has conducted all-state and regional honor choirs in North Carolina, Virginia, and Pennsylvania. As a choral adjudicator and clinician, he has served at choral festivals in North Carolina, Virginia, and South Carolina Choirs under Dr. Bara’s direction have performed by invitation at state and regional conferences of the American Choral Directors Association and the Music Educators National Conference. The ECU Chamber Singers recently sang under his baton at the 2006 ACDA Southern Division Regional Convention in Charleston, West Virginia and have been invited to perform at the 2007 ACDA National Convention in Miami Florida.

A native of Mississippi, John Odom holds a Ph.D. in Music Education, a Master of Music Education and a Bachelor of Music Education from the University of Southern Mississippi. He also holds a Master of Church Music degree from the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Before coming to Georgia, Odom taught choral music in Mississippi for thirteen years at the junior high and high school levels. In his eighth year in Georgia, he has served as Director of Choral Activities at Lovejoy High School in Clayton County for five years and is in his third year as Director of Choral Activities at Starr’s Mill High School in Fayetteville, Georgia. Choirs under his direction have consistently received Superior ratings at District, State, and Regional choral festivals, as well as Superior ratings and Best in Class awards at regional competitions. Dr. Odom’s students have been selected for All State Honor Choruses, Regional and National ACDA Honor Choruses, and the Governor’s Honor Program. He has served as GMEA District Choral Chair, District VI Chair and District Honor Chorus organizing Chair. Dr. Odom is currently the State ACDA Repertoire and Standards Chair, and serves on the Spivey Hall Education Committee and the Atlanta Opera Education Committee. He was selected as STAR teacher at Lovejoy High School in 2003 and has been selected to Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers in 1995, 2002, 2004, and 2005.
TENNESSEE ACDA STATE CHORAL FESTIVAL PERFORMANCE APPLICATION 2007

April 11, Farragut Presbyterian Church, 209 Jamestown Blvd, Farragut
April 12, First United Methodist Church, 265 West Thomson Lane, Murfreesboro
April 13, First United Methodist Church, 200 South Church St, Jackson

School/Personal Information

Name of School ____________________________________________

School Address ____________________________________________

Director’s Name(s) _________________________________________

Home Phone ____________________________ Office Phone ____________________________

Mobile Phone (or phone where you can be reached on Festival day) ____________________________

Fax ____________________________ Email ____________________________

Is the Director a member of ACDA? Yes or No  Membership Number (found on Choral Journal) ____________________________

Scheduling Information

Check which Date/Location at which you wish to perform. (You may choose a site outside your area if you prefer.)

4/12 – Knoxville 4/13 – Murfreesboro 4/19 – Jackson

What time constraints are you under, and for what reason? Give the broadest possible time frame, as scheduling all choirs requires a great deal of flexibility.

Ensemble/Fee Information

The fee from the first choir from each school is $100.00; each additional choir is $75.00. Make check payable to TN ACDA. ACDA MEMBERS RECEIVE A $25 PER CHOIR DISCOUNT. In this case, the fee for the first choir would be $75.00, and each additional choir would be $50.00. Spaces are filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Name of first ensemble: ____________________________________ Fees: __________

Program info: Title Composer

1. ____________________________________ ____________________________

2. ____________________________________ ____________________________

3. ____________________________________ ____________________________

Name of second ensemble: ____________________________________ Fees: __________

Program info: Title Composer

1. ____________________________________ ____________________________

2. ____________________________________ ____________________________

3. ____________________________________ ____________________________

(Please include fees and program information for additional choirs on a separate sheet)

Total Fees: __________
Deadline Information

- Schools wishing to attend the Festival at the Knoxville or Murfreesboro sites must return the completed form and check to the appropriate regional coordinator by March 16, 2007 (postmark date).
- Schools wishing to attend the Festival at the Jackson site must return the completed form and check to the West coordinator by April 2, 2007 (postmark date). Note – This is four days after the WTVMEA High School Festival.
- Spaces are filled on a first-come, first served basis.
- Late applications will be accepted on an individual basis upon approval by the TNACDA Festival Committee.

Area Coordinators

West (Jackson)  
Cooper Patterson  
Dyersburg High School  
125 bywy 51 by-pass  
Dyersburg TN, 38024  
Fax: 731-286-3630  
E-mail: pattersonc1@dcs.k12tn.net

Middle (Murfreesboro)  
Brian Russell  
White House High School  
508 Tyree Springs Road  
White House, TN 37188  
Fax: 615-672-6404  
E-mail: briantrussell@msn.com

East (Knoxville)  
Dr. Angela L. Batey  
The University of Tennessee School of Music  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37996  
Office: 865.974.6649  
Fax: 865.974.1941  
Email: abatey@utk.edu

Guidelines and Regulations

The ACDA State Choral Festival is an adjudicated festival open to school choirs who have received a Superior in performance at their regional adjudication festival. If a choir received a superior at the State Festival the previous year and is unable to participate in their regional festival the current year, they may also apply to be invited by the festival committee which shall be made up of the ACDA State Treasurer, State HS R&S Chair and the State President.

1. Since all participating choirs have received superiors at the regional level, the adjudication standard at the State level is expected to be higher. Judges will use a 12 point system of grading each category. (A+ = 12, A = 11, A- = 10, etc.) The overall rating they give the choir shall be the average of the scores in the individual categories. The overall festival rating will be an average of the 3 judges. Rounding up of numbers will happen only in the final averaging of the 3 judges overall scores.

2. Judges shall be secured from out of state and be of a high caliber with sufficient experience in judging as is appropriate for a State Level festival. The festival committee shall approve the list of judges before they are invited. Judges will receive this list of criteria, along with a sample adjudication form prior to their arrival at the festival.

3. There shall be both taped and written comments by the judges.

4. Each participating choir must submit 3 legal copies of their performance selections with measures numbered. Failure to fully comply will result in the lowering of the grade by one point for each piece. Use of illegally photocopied music will result in disqualification from performance on that piece.

5. The fee for participation shall be $100 dollars for the 1st choir, and $75 for each additional choir from each school. ACDA MEMBERS RECEIVE A $25 PER CHOIR DISCOUNT. JOIN ACDA AND SAVE! All participating schools shall receive an official State Choral Festival participation plaque. (Payment must be received in advance of your performance to qualify for this discount.)