

# Choral Cues

The official publication of the  
New York Chapter of the  
American Choral Directors Association

Spring, 2014



## Inside Cues....

NY-ACDA in Conductor Exchange	Page 3-4
The P.A.S.S.I.O.N.A.T.E Choral Educator	Page 5-6
Elementary and Middle School Honor Choirs information and application	Pages 7-13
NY-ACDA Conference Announcement	Page 14
NYACDA Call for Proposals	Page 15
NYACDA Call for Choirs	Page 16
Past-President's Reflection	Page 17



## President's Message

Penelope Cruz

We're all looking to inspire and be inspired in this daily work of making music, teaching students, singing, administering, and juggling the hats we all wear and probably didn't expect we'd have to wear as a CHORAL CONDUCTOR. We don't all get to dwell all in the time in the land of beautiful sound and a finely turned phrase; we're fortunate if we get to be there 50% of our working hours. Here are the small, do-able tasks that I am trying to practice every day so that the choirs and I are more and more open to those wonderful moments.

Visit the NY-ACDA website at  
[www.nyacda.org](http://www.nyacda.org)

# NY-ACDA

## Officers

Penelope Cruz  
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White Plains HS

Norman Zogaib  
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Past-President  
Houghton College

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Fox Lane HS

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Treasurer  
Spencerport HS

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Chair  
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Jared Berry  
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St. John the Baptist  
Diocesan High School

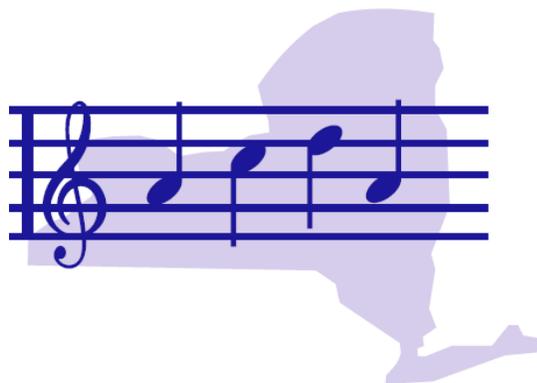
1) We collectively take a few minutes to make an intentional, thoughtful, restorative SILENCE. IF we can treasure silence, perhaps we can also find a more beautiful and thoughtful way to break silence or NOISE with our singing.

2) I want to take a moment in every rehearsal to directly and specifically recognize a particular contribution or change that an individual singer has made. And then ask that person to 'pass it forward' to one more person. Today, I told a student that she was really adept at hearing and singing her solfege leaps. She smiled.

3) I will put in my own ears and in my students' ears some musical excerpt that is unusually evocative, or meaningful, or demonstrative. I forget that sometimes the only choral music I hear for weeks is that of my own choir working to learn a new piece. And maybe the only choir my students hear is the one that is around them. Last choral performance I listened to? The ACDA Eastern Division Conference High School Honor Choir.

4) I want to look at as many choral programs as possible. The ones that I've saved from conferences. The ones YOU will send to NY-ACDA to share on our R&S pages, yes? There are so many untried wells of repertoire out there even if I feel my own has run dry! Today at school, you might have heard: *Desh* (Indian Raga/arr Ethan Sperry), Moses Hogan's *Music Down in My Soul, Sing!* (Joe Raposo/arr. Zegree) for our City-Wide Choral Concert finale.

5) Lastly, I will be ok with doing 'the best I can' as long as that means that my best means I'm finding all the ways I can to make each of the singers actually do the very best s/he can.



# NY/ACDA

*"New York Sings"*

# NY-ACDA

## Repertoire & Standards Chairs

Elizabeth  
Woodhouse  
Children's Choirs  
Brooklyn Youth  
Chorus

Christine Howlett  
College &  
University Choirs  
Vassar College

John Warren  
Community Choirs  
Syracuse University

Derrick Fox  
Ethnic & Multicul-  
tural Perspectives  
Ithaca College

Norman Zogaib  
High School Choirs  
Hamburg High School

*vacant*  
Jazz Choirs

Don Schuessler  
Middle School Choirs  
Camillus MS

Jared Berry  
Male Choirs  
St. John the Baptist  
Diocesan High School

Malcolm  
Merriweather  
Music & Worship  
Concordia College

Rollo Fisher  
2-Year College Choirs  
Monroe Community College

Philip Silvey  
Women's Choirs  
Eastman School of  
Music, URochester

## New York a Strong Presence in ACDA's International Conductor Exchange Program

In 2014 ACDA is participating in a conductor exchange with China. In late January Chinese conductor, Chen Guanghui visited and worked at West Chester University, an elementary school in Northern Maryland, and at Towson State University, before attending our Eastern Division Conference in Baltimore. At the host sites, he observed various types of choirs in rehearsal and performance, worked with choirs and conductors, presented information about choral music and singing in China, and got a taste of United States' culture. At the conference Mr. Chen presented a very informative Interest Session on the choral music and choirs in his province of Guangdong. A wonderful and well-attended reception for ICEP was hosted by ACFEA on Thursday evening at the conference. I want to thank Yiping Wu and Kerry Holahan for the invaluable service as translators during the conference.

Then this summer, conductors from each ACDA Division will travel to China to observe and teach. In the Eastern Division we are fortunate to have two conductors chosen to go – and they are both New Yorkers! Mary Clementi is Music Director of Highbridge Voices in New York City, and Michael Kerschner is Artistic Director of the Young New Yorkers' Chorus and Choral Director at North Shore High School on Long Island. Mary and Michael are extremely excited for this amazing opportunity.

The next exchange will occur in 2016 with a country to be announced soon. Please consider applying. You can learn more about the program at <http://www.choralnet.org/view/280632>.

John Warren, Eastern Division Liaison, International Conductor Exchange Program

# NY-ACDA

Regional  
Representatives



## Reflections: Preparation for International Choral Exchange Program in China

Mary Clementi  
NY-ACDA Metropolitan Representative  
2014 ICEP Participant  
Music Director, Highbridge Voices

In New York City, cultural diversity is part of daily life. However, in a city as compartmentalized as New York, my students in the South Bronx often go weeks, even months, without leaving their neighborhood. When I get off the subway at 170<sup>th</sup> Street each morning, I arrive in a part of the city unknown to many New Yorkers, and it comes complete with its own Spanish dialect, food choices, even parking rules. When my students leave their neighborhood for a field trip or family outing, they might as well be departing for a completely different city. For many, the Bronx is their entire world, and anything beyond it feels out of reach.

Part of my job as the music director at Highbridge Voices is to bring the world to my students. Since they don't go on European vacations, and many have never left the Bronx, I strive to expose them to the sounds, traditions, and values of countries across the globe. Through our concert repertoire, we have studied music of Western Europe, South America, South Africa, and the Balkans. Music has proved to be a powerful way to teach my students about different cultures, belief systems, and ways of living. The International Conductors Exchange Program will allow me to learn about life and music in China. It will give me an experience I can bring back to the rehearsal room. It will allow me to expose my students to a country, a culture, and a people they know so little about—one that grows increasingly relevant in their day-to-day lives as Americans.

Just as I am eager to have a choral conducting experience in China to share with my students, I am also excited to share the Bronx and Highbridge Voices with Chinese choir conductors. People around the world know one side of New York City—the soaring skyscrapers, Central Park, the boutiques of Madison Avenue. But the New York that belongs to my students remains undiscovered. The ICEP will allow me to show other music educators how, in this neglected neighborhood, students are learning and loving choral music. Inside these under-funded schools and bare-bones housing projects are kids who are passionate about singing. They can tell you all about Beethoven's 9<sup>th</sup> Symphony, and they will tell you they absolutely *LOVE* Mozart. They sing in Eric Whitacre's Virtual Choir. They sign up in droves for free tickets to see Bach's Mass in B minor. They spend hours on YouTube looking up clips of overtone singing. Here, in the nation's poorest congressional district, in the shadow of America's most expensive city, are 120 students who love choral music and love to sing. The ICEP will introduce choral colleagues from China to these singers and this corner of New York. It will give these students an opportunity to be part of a larger choral network.

While the task of bringing the world to my students can feel daunting at times, it is a critical part of my mission as a music educator in a low-income setting. I believe there is great value in exposing our students to countries and cultures that are unfamiliar. And if, in exchange, the children of the South Bronx can gain a voice, then I have not only brought the world to my students, but I have helped them find their place in the global community of singers.

Vicky Furby  
Region 1  
(Western)  
SUNY-Buffalo

Jason Holmes  
Region 2  
(Central)  
Brighton City Schools

Jeff Francom  
Region 3  
(Northland)  
Crane School of Music  
SUNY-Potsdam

Michael Lister  
Region 4  
(Albany)  
College of St. Rose

Jason Thoms  
Region 5  
(South-Westchester)  
Concordia College

Mary Clementi  
Region 6  
(Metropolitan)  
Highbridge Voices

Craig Knapp  
Region 7  
(Long Island)  
Joseph Edgar School

## **The P.A.S.S.I.O.N.A.T.E. Choral Educator's Guide to Longevity in the Classroom.**

Dr. Derrick Fox, NY ACDA R&S Chair for Multicultural and Ethnic Perspectives  
Assistant Professor of Music Education/Choral Conducting, Ithaca College

As we return from learning, sharing, and connecting with colleagues and new and old friends at the Eastern ACDA convention, I am reminded of how invigorating the art of choral music can be for the soul. The many engaging sessions and inspiring concerts reminded us that we became music educators because of the role music played in our own early lives. We are driven by this passion to pay the gift of music forward to our students.

As the years go by, we assume many roles as director, choreographer, set builder, costume designer, caregiver, counselor, etc.... losing ourselves in the many tasks that are required to keep our choral programs afloat. Over my years of teaching, these demands began to chip away at the passion for music that I once coveted. In an effort to protect my passion and develop a healthier work/life balance, I devised strategies that allowed me to truly enjoy teaching by fostering classroom community, instilling student ownership and rekindling my own personal music making endeavors.

**Pace/Play:** It is important that you don't take yourself too seriously. Students appreciate rehearsals that offer a balance of challenge and relaxation. Finding that intricate balance will yield a great amount of student equity for when you really need every ounce of their attention.

**Acquire:** Never stop learning! If you can't make it to your state or national convention, create your own cohort of teachers with whom you can trade ideas and best practices. With Skype, FaceTime and other social outreach applications, it is easier than ever to build professional groups that reflect the needs of your teaching situation. No teacher is an island unto himself/herself.

**Sing:** We know that singing is a VERY personal act. If you would like for your students to be vulnerable then you must be the same. Choral directors should stay engaged vocally so that we never forget what it feels like to be one the other side of the podium. It will inform the way you teach your own singers when you remember what it feels like to be the singer.

**Savor:** As music students, we are taught to find the errors and move on to the next issue. Savor the successes. If you get wrapped up in the hunt for mistakes, your students will never experience the gratification of achieving. Take time to intentionally revel in the good things, however big or small, because you and your students deserve it.

**Imagine:** It is imperative that you have a vision for your work. A choral program without a mission is like a house built without a blueprint. No one will want to live there. I encourage you to create a mission statement for your choral program. The motto I used for my high school was "Great Music, Better People." My teaching strategies, literature choices and interactions with my students exemplified that statement so that I could ask the same of them.

**Ownership:** Find ways to relinquish some aspect of your rehearsal or choral program to your students (i.e. roll taking, uniform check-out, leading sightreading). For most of us Type A choral types, this is difficult because we are doers and find it hard to "just let go." Students will take care of possessions in which they have invested their own time.

**Never forget your purpose:** Have you clearly defined why students should be a part of YOUR choral program? We are all familiar with commonly-stated benefits of participating in music programs but can you articulate how those global benefits are applicable in your program? Be proactive about specifying how your choral program is directly related to the overall well-being of the school community. This will come in handy if you find yourself in the unfortunate position of justifying your program needs.

**Appreciate:** In the hustle and bustle of preparing concerts, shows, solo and ensemble groups, we can forget to express our gratitude to our students, colleagues, family and friends. “Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.” -

**Trust:** Build relationships with those you trust with your professional well-being. This difficult is that there are those who will point out your flaws because it makes them feel better and there are others who will point out your flaws because they are truly invested in your growth. Discovering the difference can lead to a wonderful cohort of life long friendships and musical inspiration.

**Empower:** Choir can be a vehicle for understanding cultural differences and build bridges between your students. Choose literature that represents the diverse cultures that compromise your classrooms, schools, district, state and country. Not only does this empower the students in your classroom it also builds a positive learning community in which you can accomplish great music making, which is at the core of what we want to achieve everyday.

As you move through the remainder of the year checking things off of your “choir-to-do-list,” I encourage you to keep the quality of that experience at the forefront of your actions. We are all familiar with the quote, “Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life.” I’d like to expound upon that with “Choose a job you’re P.A.S.S.I.O.N.A.T.E. about, and you’ll love it every day of your life.”

## CONGRATULATIONS TO NEWLY ELECTED ACDA LEADERSHIP!

NY ACDA PRESIDENT-ELECT (2014-2015)  
Norman Zogaib, Hamburg High School

EASTERN DIVISION PRESIDENT ELECT (2014-2016)  
PAUL HEAD, University of Delaware

NATIONAL PRESIDENT ELECT DESIGNATE  
TOM SHELTON, Westminster Choir College



**Sing with New York's  
finest!**

# **2014 NY/ACDA Middle School Honor Choir**

Featuring Guest Conductor

*Dr. Lynne Gackle*

*Professor and Choral Director at  
Baylor University School of Music*



**Who:** *Current 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade choir students. Students must demonstrate fine musicianship and singing skills.*

**Where:** *The Hilton Albany, 40 Lodge Street, Albany, NY*

**When:** *August 9 & 10, 2014*

**Tentative schedule for August 9<sup>th</sup>:**

12:00-1:00 PM Registration

1:00-5:00 PM Rehearsal

7:00-8:30 PM Rehearsal

**Tentative schedule for August 10<sup>th</sup>:**

9:00-9:45 AM Rehearsal

10:00-10:45 AM Open Rehearsal

12:00 PM Middle School Honor Choir Concert

**How to apply:** *Please fill out the attached application form with non-refundable application fee. Interested students must be nominated by their choir teacher.*

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: SATURDAY, APRIL 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2014**

*For more information visit [www.nyacda.org](http://www.nyacda.org) or contact*

*Mary Clementi, NY/ACDA Middle School Honor Choir Chair – [nymiddleschoolhonorchoir@gmail.com](mailto:nymiddleschoolhonorchoir@gmail.com)*

# NY/ACDA 2014 Middle School Honor Choir Nomination Form

To be submitted by the Nominating Teacher/Conductor

- Choral Director must be an active member of ACDA or NYSSMA
- **Singers must be in 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade during the 2013-2014 school year**
- **Application Deadline is Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014 POSTMARK**
- ACDA Members: \$15 non-refundable application fee **per** recommended singer
- NYSSMA Members (Non-ACDA): \$20 non-refundable fee **per** recommended singer
- Check should be made payable to **NY/ACDA. DO NOT MAIL CASH**
- **All communication will be through email** from nymiddleschoolhonorchoir@gmail.com

Mail All Forms and Checks to: Mary Clementi  
HIGHBRIDGE VOICES  
1360 Merriam Avenue  
Bronx, NY 10452

This form must be completely and accurately filled out to be accepted. PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY  
(Please use this form to duplicate as many as necessary, using one application per singer)

Name of Sponsoring Ensemble: \_\_\_\_\_ School District: \_\_\_\_\_

Director's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Director's Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email (School): \_\_\_\_\_ Email (Home): \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Singer Name: (As it will appear in the program) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name/s: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Email: \_\_\_\_\_ **MUST BE LEGIBLE**

Singer's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ Voice Part: S A T B (Choose ONE)

T-Shirt Size: [YOUTH – L XL] or [ADULT – S M L XL Height: \_\_\_\_\_ ft. \_\_\_\_\_ in.

Teacher Recommendation: (You may include Solo, Musical, NYSSMA Solo, All County experience & or Evaluation Sheet)

The nominating director will be notified by May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014 or shortly thereafter, of acceptance. Parents/Singers will then receive an email with all pertinent acceptance packet material. The Choir fee is \$125 per student. This cost covers the rehearsal CD & music, Festival T-Shirt, Snack, Guest Conductor Fee & Administrative expenses. Directors and Parents/Guardians are responsible to check the student's availability for the Festival Dates (8/9 & 8/10). There must be a full commitment on behalf of the Director/Student and Parent/Guardians.

## PARENT/GUARDIAN CONSENT:

"I have read all of the information regarding the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual NY/ACDA MSHC to be held from 8/9-8/10/2014 in Albany, NY. I understand it is an honor for my child to be selected. I understand it is MY responsibility (NOT THE DIRECTORS') to Chaperone my child throughout ALL rehearsals during the Festival."

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Parent/Guardian Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Parent/Guardian – Print Please*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*



**NY/ACDA  
MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR CHOIR  
2014 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM  
DUE: APRIL 12, 2014**

The student must:

- Be musically talented
- In need of financial aid
- Exhibit good choir rehearsal behavior
- Be recommended by a choral teacher that is a NYSSMA or NY/ACDA member.

The student's teacher should complete the following:

**Student's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
*First M.I. Last*

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Street Apt. #*

\_\_\_\_\_ *City State Zip*

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Teacher's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
*First M.I. Last*

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Street Apt. #*

\_\_\_\_\_ *City State Zip*

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes/No**

\_\_\_\_\_ Is student able to participate in the NY/ACDA Middle School Honor Choir if he/she does not receive a scholarship?

\_\_\_\_\_ Is student able to earn/contribute to some of the choir costs?

**Nominating Teacher**

Please give your reason(s) for recommending this student (based on above criteria).

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher's Signature

Submit this form with the student's **application** along with a **short essay** written by the student reflecting his/her interest in participation in the NY/ACDA Honor Choir and experience in music.

**DUE WITH APPLICATION FEE and NOMINATION on APRIL 12, 2014 POSTMARK**

**NEW YORK/AMERICAN CHORAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION  
12<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL ELEMENTARY CHILDREN'S HONOR CHOIR**

***COME SING WITH THE FINEST!***

Monday, August 11 & Tuesday, August 12, 2014  
Part of the NYSSMA New York State Summer Music Conference

- **CONDUCTOR:** NY/ACDA is honored to have **Dr. Susan Brumfield** as the guest conductor. Dr. Brumfield is the Artistic Director of the West Texas Children's Chorus. She has selected a challenging program of varied treble chorus literature for the NY/ACDA Elementary Children's Honor Choir to perform.
- **REHEARSALS:** All rehearsals and the concert will be held on the College of St. Rose campus and the Hilton Albany in Albany, New York as part of the New York State Summer Music Conference.
  - The **tentative** schedule for Monday, August 11, 2014 includes:  
11:30AM - 1:00PM Registration (Lunch before on your own.) – College of St. Rose  
1:00PM - 5:00PM Rehearsal (There will be a snack break.) – College of St. Rose  
5:00PM - 6:30PM Dinner (Provided) – College of St. Rose  
6:30PM - 8:00PM Rehearsal – College of St. Rose
  - The **tentative** schedule for Tuesday, August 12, 2014 includes:  
10:30 - 1:30PM Rehearsal and short lunch break – The Hilton Albany  
2:00-2:45 PM Concert – The Hilton Albany
- **REQUIREMENTS:**  
Recommending teachers must be active members of either **NY/ACDA** or **NYSSMA**. We are looking for your finest **treble** singers who:
  - are **current 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, or 6<sup>th</sup>** Graders in your choral program.
  - can easily match pitch with a pleasant head tone (treble).
  - can handle singing challenging music in multiple voicings and languages.
  - display the discipline and interest to do well in a structured rehearsal situation.
  - love to sing!

**DEADLINE: APRIL 12, 2014 POSTMARK**

Please send the attached **application form** with your non-refundable application fee to the address below.

**ACDA Members:** \$15 **per** recommended singer

**NYSSMA members who are not members of ACDA:** \$20 **per** recommended singer.

Please do not send cash. Checks should be made out to NY/ACDA.

Notification of acceptance will be sent out by May 19, 2014. Soon after, registration forms and fees (\$125.00) will be due. Upon receipt of these materials, music, a rehearsal CD, housing information in Albany, expectations and procedures will be sent to the recommending teacher for distribution.

- **CONTACT:** Please send completed application forms and fees to:

Elizabeth Woodhouse  
NY/ACDA Elementary Children's Honor Choir Coordinator  
c/o Brooklyn Youth Chorus  
179 Pacific Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11201  
E-mail: ewoodhouseacda@gmail.com



**NY/ACDA 2014**  
**ELEMENTARY CHILDREN'S HONOR CHOIR NOMINATION FORM**  
**Albany, August 11 – 12, 2014**

*To be submitted by the Nominating Choral Teacher/Director*

- Choral Director must be an active member ACDA or NYSSMA
- Singers must be in 4, 5, or 6 grade during the 2013-2014 school year
- **Application and application fee deadline is April 12, 2014 POSTMARK**
- ACDA members: \$15 non-refundable application fee **per** recommended singer.
- NYSSMA members (non-ACDA): \$20 non-refundable application fee **per** recommended singer.
- All checks should be payable to **NY/ACDA**. Please do not send cash.
- Directors who are submitting more than two singers should also submit the second page of this form. Please note that voice parts (sop, alto, etc.) will be assigned, and students from the same teacher will be assigned the same voice part to make preparing the students less complicated.

Mail all forms and checks to: Elizabeth Woodhouse, NY/ACDA Elementary Children's Honor Choir Chair  
c/o Brooklyn Youth Chorus  
179 Pacific Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11201

**Please fill out this form completely and clearly. One form is required per recommended singer.**

Director's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ACDA or NYSSMA # \_\_\_\_\_

Director E-mail (accessible during the summer): \_\_\_\_\_

Director School Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Director Home Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Chorus (School or Community): \_\_\_\_\_ School District: \_\_\_\_\_

\*School Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

\*Music folders and CDs will be sent to this address.

SINGER'S NAME: (As it will appear in program): \_\_\_\_\_

Singer's Parent Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

Singer's Parent Contact Telephone (cell is best): \_\_\_\_\_

Singer's Parent E-mail\*: \_\_\_\_\_

\*The majority of correspondences will be done via email. It is important that the address provided is *accurate* and checked regularly.

Current Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender:  M  F

T-Shirt Size (circle): [YOUTH - M L ] or [ADULT - S M L XL] Height of Singer: \_\_\_\_\_ ft. \_\_\_\_\_ in.

Teacher Recommendation (You may include Solo, Musical, All County, or ACDA honor choir experience):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT/GUARDIAN CONSENT:**

"I have read the information regarding NY/ACDA Elementary Children's Honor Choir to be held in Albany, NY, August 11-12, 2014. I understand that it is an honor for my child to be selected, and that by applying, my child and I are committing to attending this event if selected. I understand it is my responsibility (not the teacher's) to chaperone my child throughout all rehearsals."

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Parent/Guardian Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name of Parent/Guardian – please print*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

**NEW YORK/AMERICAN CHORAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION  
ELEMENTARY CHILDREN'S HONOR CHOIR  
MULTIPLE NOMINATION RANKING FORM**  
(Only necessary for those submitting more than two singers.)

Please rank your submitted singers, with #1 being the strongest singer. Individual nomination forms and fees for each of the singers below must also be submitted.

NOMINATING DIRECTOR: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL/COMMUNITY \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_
13. \_\_\_\_\_
14. \_\_\_\_\_
15. \_\_\_\_\_



NY/ACDA  
ELEMENTARY CHILDREN'S HONOR CHOIR  
2014 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM  
DUE: April 12, 2014

The student must:

- Be musically talented
- In need of financial aid
- Exhibit good choir rehearsal behavior
- Be recommended by a choral teacher that is a NYSSMA or NY/ACDA member.

The student's teacher should complete the following:

**Student's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
*First M.I. Last*

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Street Apt. #*

\_\_\_\_\_ *City State Zip*

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Teacher's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
*First M.I. Last*

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes/No**

\_\_\_\_\_ Is student able to participate in the NY/ACDA Children's Honor Choir if he/she does not receive a scholarship?

\_\_\_\_\_ Is student able to earn/contribute to some of the choir costs?

**Nominating Teacher**

Please give your reason(s) for recommending this student (based on above criteria).

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher's Signature

Submit this form with the student's **application** along with a **short essay** written by the student reflecting his/her interest in participation in the NY/ACDA Honor Choir and experience in music.  
**DUE with the nomination form and application fee by April 12, 2014 postmark**

# SAVE THE DATES!

## NY-ACDA SUMMER CONFERENCE

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*In conjunction with NYSSMA*

At the Hilton Albany  
August 10-12, 2014

DIRECTORS' CHORUS  
Vocal Jazz legend, STEVE ZEGREE, conductor

HONOR CHORUS CONDUCTORS  
LYNN GACKLE & SUSAN BRUMFIELD

READING/TEACHING SESSION PRESENTERS  
John Warren  
Sandra Babb  
Penelope Cruz  
Derrick Fox

## NY-ACDA FALL CONFERENCE

---

*Voices of New York*

At VASSAR COLLEGE  
October 31-November-1, 2014

Submit your application soon for either a performing choir or  
session presenter!

Our conference includes headliners:  
Jeffrey Douma, Yale University  
David Fryling and eVoco, voice collective  
Christine Howlett, Vassar College Choirs  
AND MAYBE YOU and YOUR CHOIR!

Applications available at [nyacda.org](http://nyacda.org) or in this newsletter.

# APPLICATION for INTEREST SESSIONS Due Date: May 15, 2014

NY ACDA Fall Conference  
Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY  
Oct. 31-Nov. 1, 2014

ACDA members and members of associate professional and scholarly societies are invited to submit session proposals for the NY ACDA Fall Conference to be held at Vassar College, Oct. 31-Nov. 1, 2014.

To apply, please submit this form and items outlined in IV and V by e-mail to [pcruzACDA@gmail.com](mailto:pcruzACDA@gmail.com)

## I. General Information

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address that is best to use: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone where you should be reached: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

ACDA Membership #: \_\_\_\_\_ or other professional society: \_\_\_\_\_

## II. To what constituency is your session most appropriate/applicable (check all but only boxes that clearly apply):

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Choir  | <input type="checkbox"/> Collegiate Choir           | <input type="checkbox"/> High School Choir            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Women's Choir    | <input type="checkbox"/> Men's Choir                | <input type="checkbox"/> Music & Worship              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Choir | <input type="checkbox"/> Boychoir                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Jr. High/Middle School Choir |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jazz/Show Choir  | <input type="checkbox"/> Ethnic/Multicultural Choir | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth & Student Activities   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other:           |   |   |

**II. Proposed Session Title** *should be carefully considered, brief, attractive and reflect actual workshop content, and be no longer than approximately 10 words, and preferably less.*

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## III. Type of Session (check all that may apply):

- |                                  |   |   |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clinic  | <input type="checkbox"/> Panel              | <input type="checkbox"/> Clinic or lecture w /demonstration** |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Repertoire Session | <input type="checkbox"/> Other format: _____                  |

\*\*Clinics or demonstration sessions can include presenter's own ensemble; NY ACDA will not provide a demo ensemble.

## IV. Session Description, approx. 200-300 words max. (Include as another page to this application.)

## V. Brief Bio or resume of Presenter. (Include as another page to this application.)

Questions and proposals can be directed to: Penelope Cruz, NY-ACDA President at [pcruzACDA@gmail.com](mailto:pcruzACDA@gmail.com)

The selection committee will be guided in their acceptance process by the following criteria:

- quality of the written summary including its objectives and organization;
- importance and timeliness of the topic;
- practical applicability to our membership; and
- overall conference program balance.

A variety of session formats are offered. The committee will consider lectures, clinics, panels, demonstration sessions, repertoire sessions, or any other forum that speaks to the musical, intellectual, and technical issues faced by choral musicians. It is also expected that the full palette of interest sessions, as a whole, will reflect a wide spectrum of styles, cultures, literature and musicians.

# NY ACDA Application for Conference Choral Performance

## NY ACDA Conference @ Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY, Oct. 31-Nov. 1, 2014

ELIGIBILITY - Conductor must be current paid member of ACDA. - Conductor must be employed in the same position for this and two previous school/calendar years. - Conductor must have conducted the auditioning ensemble for this and two previous school/calendar years.

NY ACDA assumes no financial responsibility for performer travel, food, and lodging. By submitting an application to perform, if chosen, you automatically consent to being audio and video recorded with no financial compensation from ACDA or the recording company.

Name of Institution/Sponsoring Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Ensemble: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Singers: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check all appropriate areas that describe your choir:

<input type="checkbox"/> Professional	<input type="checkbox"/> Community	<input type="checkbox"/> High School	<input type="checkbox"/> Middle/Junior High School
<input type="checkbox"/> College/University	<input type="checkbox"/> Jazz Choir	<input type="checkbox"/> Show Choir	<input type="checkbox"/> Church/Synagogue
<input type="checkbox"/> Multi-Cultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Children / Youth	<input type="checkbox"/> Women/Girls	<input type="checkbox"/> Men/Boys <input type="checkbox"/> Mixed

Conductor Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Institution/Agency Address \_\_\_\_\_

Work phone \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

ACDA Membership Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name of your Administrator \_\_\_\_\_

### Audio CD Requirements

Please submit one recording either by CD, DVD, or by a link to the sound/video file, or by DropBox to [pcruzACDA@gmail.com](mailto:pcruzACDA@gmail.com). The recording should be no longer than 10-15 minutes in length and should include three selections. The recordings will be reviewed by NY-ACDA board members and Conference committee members.

Please list the selections from your audition CD/DVD

Selection #1: Title \* \_\_\_\_\_ Composer \* \_\_\_\_\_

Selection #2: Title \* \_\_\_\_\_ Composer \* \_\_\_\_\_

Selection #3: Title \* \_\_\_\_\_ Composer \* \_\_\_\_\_

The first page of the application and the recording can be sent by one of two means:

- 1) E-mail to [pcruzACDA@gmail.com](mailto:pcruzACDA@gmail.com)
- 2) Via postal mail to Penelope Cruz, White Plains High School, 550 North St., White Plains NY 10605

### Process Schedule

- May 1, 2014: Postmark deadline for mailing.
- May 2014: R & S Chair Review
- Late May, 2014: Notification will be made to conductors via e-mail



*To wear away stone....*

A reflection on the transformative power of music

Brandon Johnson

Past-President, NY-ACDA

Director of Choral Activities, Houghton College

To wear away stone...

...to meet, to carry, to be changed. This text excerpt is from a poem by Susan Palo Cherwien and was powerfully set by J. Aaron McDermid. The Houghton College Choir has been performing a four-movement work entitled *From Light to Light* and we have been given the opportunity to live with and consider these words in a very tangible way.

As professional musicians and music educators we consistently talk about how music has the capacity to change lives. We talk to parents, administrators and audiences about the power of music and how important our art form is to the betterment of society.

Yet, I have to wonder how many of us are distracted by the immediate and we lose sight of the important. We focus on the tangible; we focus on those things that can be measured. The chaos of our everyday lives make it difficult to focus on the important task of placing musicians in musical opportunities that have the opportunity to be transformative for them.

I know I have been talking about the transformative powers of music but fall guilty of these same issues. I have recently been reminded, however, how critical it is to focus on the important musical issues. Every time I see a young person who is transformed by music my reaction is always the same... surprise. In retrospect, I feel like a fraud. If I know that music can change lives, because it has changed mine, then I should not be surprised when it changes those around me.

This article is a very short reminder for all of us, to focus on those things that are most important within our art form. The most profound way we can speak to those who control budgets, calendars and hold the keys to our student's artistic futures; is to demonstrate the truth of the transformative nature of music.