

--MSU Choral Leadership Workshop--

April 16, 2020

Dear Choral Director:

Greetings from the MSU choral area! First of all, we hope this finds you and those around you healthy and staying safe. The COVID-19 pandemic has challenged all of us in ways that we never imagined. While we are keenly aware of the gravity of the current situation, we also believe we need to continue to look to the future. When we finally emerge from this uncertain and chaotic time, choral music will be sorely needed by our society: real human beings joining powerful poetry to inspiring and comforting melodies and harmonies. We are grateful that we all can be a part of that effort.

It is a pleasure to invite you and your high school students (one or two SATB quartets) to the Michigan State University Choral Leadership Workshop, to be held on our campus **Monday, October 5, 2020**. The MSU choral faculty—Sandra Snow, Jonathan Reed, and David Rayl—will provide high-quality, positive experiences in sight-reading, vocalism, and musicianship to gifted high school singers, which they can take back to strengthen their own choral ensembles. Additionally, we try to present new and diverse repertoire that will be of interest to you as a conductor.

We have a website highlighting all of the information for this festival.

[updated website URL](#)

At this time, all we ask is whether or not you and your choir are able to join us (with the understanding that the future is uncertain). We are not asking for payment of the participation fee (\$85 per quartet; \$170 for two quartets) and we understand that your plans could change.

Specifics of the day remain the same

- Appearances by various MSU choral ensembles, faculty, and student soloists.
- Individual high school singers will have an opportunity to sing in master classes led by one of our MSU vocal arts faculty.
- Limited to 250 singers. Singers will be accepted in the order in which responses are received.
- Arrive 8:15 a.m. The day begins at 9:00 a.m.
- Musical Resources will provide reading packets for teachers and students instead of individual octavos.
- Please reserve a spot for your quartet or double quartet on or before May 15 by emailing our graduate assistant, Jennifer Heder, at jenniferheder@gmail.com

We hope you and your students will enjoy the varied activities of this day and that you and they will take away helpful approaches, techniques, and literature.

We look forward to seeing you in the fall. Stay safe!

Sincerely,

David Rayl
Jonathan Reed
Sandra Snow