Dear Choral Director:

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 Tuesday, September 24, 2019. Please note that this is a week earlier than past years.

The MSU choral faculty--myself, Sandra Snow, and Jonathan Reed--will conduct the workshop, which 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.

During the day we will have appearances by various MSU choral ensembles, faculty, and student soloists. In addition, individual high school singers will have an opportunity to sing in master classes led by one of our MSU vocal arts faculty. Information regarding master classes and collection of names will come in August. We hope you will join our faculty for this opportunity!

The Leadership Workshop is limited to 250 singers; we ask that you reserve a spot for your quartet by contacting our graduate assistant, Brennan Michaels, at micha165@msu.edu. Singers will be accepted in the order in which responses are received.

Cost for the festival has increased this year due to Musical Resources being able to provide reading packets for teachers and students instead of individual octavos. This means that each participant will be able to keep their music at the end of the festival. Checks for the participation and music fee of $85 per quartet ($170 for two quartets) will be collected at registration and should be made payable to Michigan State University. Please plan to arrive for registration between 8:15 and 8:30 a.m.

Our site for this event is the state of the art Fairchild Theater in the Auditorium Building at the intersection of Farm Lane and Auditorium Road. We are unable to provide parking passes; we suggest dropping off your students at Fairchild Theater and then using any of the public parking lots, which are found on Grand River Ave or the commuter parking lot on Farm Lane and Mt. Hope. A luncheon will be provided for all of the directors. Students will either need to bring a lunch or head to one of the restaurants on Grand River Ave.

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, literature, et cetera. Because of the nature and purpose of the Choral Leadership Workshop, we ask you to bring your strongest musical leaders. As in the past, we invite you to participate with your students in the day's singing.

What should you do if you want your students to participate? Please e-mail Brennan Michaels at micha165@msu.edu as soon as possible to reserve a space for your quartets.

We hope that you'll be able to join us.

Sincerely,

David C. Rayl
Director of Choral Program and
Associate Dean for Graduate Studies in Music
College of Music
Music Practice Building, #211
345 West Circle Drive
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824