

# SCMEA Choral Division Handbook

## 2019-2020

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Information accurate as of  
Sunday, August 11, 2019.

Registration forms and additional information are  
available at the Choral Division's website:

<https://choraldivision.org/>



### CHORAL DIVISION OFFICERS 2019-2020

#### President

**Nikki Belch**, Riverside M.S.  
458 Riverside St., Pendleton 29670  
864-403-2200 (s), 803-710-5830 (m)  
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#### Past President

**Gregory Pittman**, Swansea H.S.  
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803-490-7707 x34146 (s), 803-717-0437 (m)  
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#### President-Elect

**David Richardson**, Summerville H.S.  
1101 Boonehill Rd., Summerville 29483  
843-873-6460 (s)  
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#### Secretary

**Erin Phillips**, Walhalla H.S.  
4701 North Hwy. 11, Walhalla 29691  
864-886-4490 (s)  
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#### Treasurer

**Lisa Pecarina**, Sullivan M.S.  
5600 Samuel Neel Rd., Charlotte, NC 28278  
803-981-1450 (s), 704-930-3059 (m)  
[lpecarina@rhmail.org](mailto:lpecarina@rhmail.org)

#### Parliamentarian

### NOTICE

Federal copyright law strictly prohibits the recording of copyrighted material. Federal student privacy law strictly prohibits the dissemination of student data to unauthorized persons. In order to comply with these two federal laws,

**NO SCMEA CHORAL DIVISION EVENT MAY BE RECORDED IN ANY FORM.**

## COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

### All-State Chorus

**Lizzi Elliott**, Andrew Jackson H.S.  
6924 Kershaw Camden Hwy., Kershaw 29067  
803-313-6536 (s), 803-924-5109 (m)  
[lizzi.eargle@yahoo.com](mailto:lizzi.eargle@yahoo.com), [Lizzi.Elliott@lcsd.k12.sc.us](mailto:Lizzi.Elliott@lcsd.k12.sc.us)

### High School Choral Performance Assessment

**Lisa Cunningham**, Spartanburg H.S.  
500 Dupre Dr., Spartanburg 29307  
864-594-4410 (s)  
[lspringer88@bellsouth.net](mailto:lspringer88@bellsouth.net); [lccunningham@spart7.org](mailto:lccunningham@spart7.org)

### Region Choir

**Dale Roth**, Clinton H.S.  
18132 Hwy. 72 E., Clinton 29325  
864-938-1936 (s), 864-923-5876 (m)  
[daleroth@lcsd56g.com](mailto:daleroth@lcsd56g.com)

### Solo and Ensemble Festival

**Erin Phillips**, Walhalla H.S.  
4701 North Hwy. 11, Walhalla 29691  
864-886-4490 (s)  
[erinshafer@gmail.com](mailto:erinshafer@gmail.com)

### Middle School Choral Performance Assessment

**Camille Jones**, Gilbert M.S.  
120 Rikard Cir., Gilbert 29054  
803-821-1700 (s)  
[cjones@lexington1.net](mailto:cjones@lexington1.net)

### Middle School Choral Clinic

**Millie Shiflett**, Boiling Springs M.S.  
4801 Hwy 9, Inman 29349  
864-578-5984 (s)  
[millie.shiflett@spart2.org](mailto:millie.shiflett@spart2.org)

## ALL-STATE CHORUS COMMITTEE

### Group A—Term 2017-2021

Craig Coelho, Gilbert H.S.  
Jonathan Hall, Rock Hill H.S.  
Chris Leysath, North Augusta H.S.  
David Stephenson, Lexington H.S.

### Group B—Term 2018-2022

Lizzi Elliott, Andrew Jackson H.S., Chairperson/  
Audition Coordinator  
Ashlee Poole, Sumter H.S.  
Peter Simms, Travelers Rest H.S.  
Lindsey Webb, Fort Dorchester H.S., Weekend  
Coordinator

### Group C—Term 2019-2023

Erick Figueras, South Florence H.S.  
Stephen Gunter, Greer H.S.  
Melissa Henderson, Belton-Honea Path H.S.  
Jacelyn Spearman, Conway H.S.

## HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

Sarah Bridges, Mid-Carolina H.S.  
Lisa Cunningham, Spartanburg H.S., Chairperson  
Walter Graham, Dreher H.S.  
Joshua Wall, Hilton Head H.S.

## REGION CHOIR COMMITTEE

Jordan Boyd, Goose Creek H.S.—Region 4  
Dale Roth, Clinton H.S., Chairperson—Region 1  
Nicholas Shumate, Chapin H.S.—Region 2

## SOLO AND ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

Jamie Hawkins, Berkley H.S.—Region 4  
Beth Mears, Richland Northeast H.S.—Region 2  
Erin Phillips, Walhalla H.S., Chairperson—Region 1

## MIDDLE SCHOOL CHORAL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

Carla Brock, Seneca M.S.  
Maurice Burgess, Gregg M.S.  
Mac Cochran, Lexington M.S.  
Camille Jones, Gilbert M.S., Chairperson  
Casey Kerr, League Academy of Communication Arts  
Candace Potter Craig, Johnston-Edgefield-Trenton M.S.  
Millie Shiflett, Boiling Springs M.S.  
Mickey Summerall, Pleasant Hill M.S.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL CHORAL CLINIC COMMITTEE

### Group A—Term 2017-2021

Hannah Fakoury, Pelion M.S.

### Group B—Term 2018-2022

Katie Hardwick, Cane Bay M.S.  
Denise Tweito, White Knoll M.S.  
Anna Wallace, Sangaree M.S.

### Group C—Term 2019-2023

Jesse Biondi, Rainbow Lake M.S.  
Adam McCormick, Bluffton M.S.  
David Nagelkirk, Carolina Springs M.S.  
Millie Shiflett, Boiling Springs M.S., Chairperson

**CHORAL DIVISION SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES  
2019-2020**

**Sept. 6-7 Choral Arts Seminar**  
Univ. of So. Car. School of Music, Columbia

*Sept. 9 All-State Chorus audition registration opens at 12:00 p.m.*

*Sept. 27 All-State Chorus audition registration deadline at 12:00 p.m.*

*Sept. 27 M.S. SSA and TB Clinic registration deadline*

Oct. 24 M.S. TB Clinic  
St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Taylors

Oct. 29 M.S. TB Clinics  
First Baptist Church, Irmo  
Cane Bay H.S., Summerville

Nov. 4-7 All-State Chorus auditions  
Cayce United Methodist Church, Cayce

Nov. 8 M.S. SSA Clinics  
Boiling Springs M.S., Boiling Springs

Nov. 22 M.S. SSA Clinic  
Aynor H.S., Aynor  
Cane Bay H.S., Summerville

*Dec. 13 Region Choir registration deadline*

*Dec. 13 All-State Chorus weekend registration deadline*

*Dec. 13 M.S. Choral Performance Assessment registration deadline*

Jan. 16-17 Region Choir  
Southern Wesleyan University, Central

*Jan. 17 Solo & Ensemble Festival registration deadline*

Jan. 17-18 Region Choir  
Charleston Southern University, Charleston

*Jan. 24 H.S. Choral Performance Assessment registration deadline*

Jan. 24 Region Choir (One day only)  
Winthrop University, Rock Hill

*Jan. 29 M.S. 6th Grade Clinic registration deadline*

Jan. 30-31 Region Choir  
Newberry College, Newberry

**Feb. 6-9 SCMEA Professional Development Conference**  
Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, Columbia

Mar. 5 M.S. 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Clinic  
St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Taylors

Mar. 5-7 All-State Chorus weekend  
Winthrop University, Rock Hill

Mar. 6 M.S. 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Clinics  
Conway Middle School, Conway  
Pleasant Hill M.S., Lexington

Mar. 23 H.S. Choral Performance Assessment  
St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Columbia

Mar. 25 M.S. Choral Performance Assessment  
East Cooper Baptist Church, Mount Pleasant

Mar. 26 H.S. Choral Performance Assessment  
Southside Baptist Church, Spartanburg  
Cane Bay H.S., Summerville

Mar. 26 M.S. Choral Performance Assessment  
St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Columbia  
Simpsonville Baptist Church, Simpsonville

Mar. 28 Solo & Ensemble Festival  
Richland Northeast H.S., Columbia

Apr. 25 Solo & Ensemble Festival  
Walhalla H.S., Walhalla  
Berkeley H.S., Moncks Corner

*Apr. 30 Submission deadline for 2021 SCMEA Professional Development Conference performance applications*

<p><b>KEY</b> <i>Registration Deadlines</i> Events <b>Business meetings</b></p>
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Notices of cancelation will be posted on our web site and on our Facebook page. Please make sure you check before traveling.

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## MIDDLE SCHOOL CHORAL CLINICS

### 1. Purpose

Choral clinics give students from different choral backgrounds throughout the state an opportunity to rehearse and perform together under the direction of a professional conductor. Participation in these clinics will:

1. Unify large and small choruses in the common goal of performing challenging choral repertoire.
2. Allow students to hear other groups perform in a positive, non-competitive atmosphere
3. Give teachers an unparalleled opportunity to share ideas, music, and "tricks of the trade" and to benefit from first-hand observation of other choruses and conductors.
4. Offer students opportunities to be taught by other choral directors.

### 2. Registration

1. Registration materials must meet the postmark deadline and be accurate and complete in order for choruses to participate.
2. Participants in the clinics must be sixth, seventh, eighth, or ninth grade students attending a middle or junior high school and enrolled in the choral program of the school. Teachers must be current NAFME members. **Sixth grade students may only attend the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Clinic.**
3. Registration fee is **\$5.00** per student. Teachers may bring only the number of students preregistered. Teachers may wish to pay for a few extra students.
4. Payment must be made by checks, money orders, or credit card. *No purchase orders.*
5. A second location choice must be indicated on the registration form and directors should prepare to attend either their first or second choice. Schools are assigned to clinics on a first come, first served basis.
6. Directors will receive **confirmation via email** of their clinic assignments within 10 days of the registration deadline and should read this information carefully in case changes have been made to the original clinic date or location. Clinic chairpersons will send detailed information (schedule, directions, lunch arrangements, etc.) to clinic participants.
7. *NO refunds will be made after the registration deadline date.*
8. If a school is unable to attend a clinic for which it is registered, the teacher should contact the chairperson as soon as possible.
9. School or districts are not to (1) send checks separate from the registration form or (2) send a combined check for more than one clinic or more than one school.
10. **Some districts will require Tax ID information in order to send a check for clinic registration.** Teachers should request this information from the Choral Division Treasurer in advance of the registration deadline so all registration materials can be postmarked on or before the deadline.
11. South Carolina State Ethics Law states that Clinicians or Accompanists who bring their own students **will not receive payment.**

### 3. Schedule/Rehearsal Session

1. Clinics must take place during school hours. The local chairman will determine the schedule for his/her clinic based on site restrictions, the number of schools participating, the clinician's schedule, etc. The clinic schedule generally includes a morning rehearsal session, optional inclusion of a short lunch break at the clinic site, individual school performances and a final "performance" of clinic music.
2. If the clinic schedule includes a lunch break, students and chaperones should bring a bagged lunch and drink.
3. All schools participating must be prompt. Schools may need to find an alternative to school bus transportation should this pose a problem. If you are traveling out of town, do not expect to return by the end of your school day!
4. If district transportation is unable to meet the clinic arrival and departure time, the school is to use alternative transportation. Clinics will not be held up for tardy groups. Late groups will be seated at the discretion of the site chairperson. **Schools that arrive late or leave early may receive a Notification of Rules Violations form.**
5. Each choral director is responsible for the advanced preparation of all the clinic pieces. Music must be memorized and students must have copies of the music available as the clinician desires. *EXCEPTION: SSA and TTB students are NOT required to have the music memorized but must have the music in hand at the clinic.* **PHOTOCOPIED MUSIC AND WORD SHEETS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.**

### 4. Behavior

1. Each school **MUST** bring at least one chaperone per 15 students. *The choral director can serve as a chaperone for 10 or fewer students.* Chaperones may include parents and teachers, but the choral director should not be counted as a chaperone (unless there are 10 or fewer students).
2. Teachers and chaperones will constantly supervise their students at the clinic and during the rehearsal and individual school performances. Teachers who fail to provide adequate supervision for their students will be notified by the committee chairperson and appropriate action will be taken by the Middle School Clinic committee.
3. Teachers will prepare their students concerning appropriate behavior for the entire clinic day:
  - a. Students should exhibit correct posture during the rehearsal and during the individual performances.
  - b. A positive attitude and a spirit of unity should be encouraged.
  - c. No talking or disruptive behavior.
  - d. No "booing" or other negative responses for any reason!
  - e. Standing ovations are inappropriate.
  - f. No hats are to be worn.
  - g. No gum or candy is allowed
  - h. Students must remain in the designated areas only and must be accompanied by a teacher or chaperone at all times.
  - i. No electronic devices or cell phones are allowed.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL CHORAL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

- j. Restroom breaks are at the discretion of the local chairman and clinician.
4. Teachers with large groups are asked to bring their manageable, disciplined, best behaved students as well as adequate chaperones that assist in monitoring.
- 5. Individual School Performances (SSA, SATB, and Sixth Grade Clinics Only)**
  1. Each school will be encouraged to perform ONE selection, not to exceed eight minutes (including entering and exiting the stage area).
  2. The director will choose the individual performance piece.
  3. The individual performance piece cannot be one of the clinic selections.
  4. Choreography (including snapping, stomping, etc.) should not be included during the individual performance unless it is part of the written score.
  5. Groups may perform a cappella or with piano accompaniment only (taped/CD accompaniment not allowed). Other accompanying instruments such as flutes, tambourines, guitars, etc. are allowed if it is a part of the written score. **Directors who do not bring an accompanist for their individual performance are encouraged to send a copy of their performance piece in advance to the clinic's accompanist.**
  6. The director will receive comments only from the clinician. No ratings will be available.
  7. Teachers must provide one copy of their performance piece with the measures numbered for the clinician. **PHOTOCOPIES ARE ILLEGAL AND MAY NOT BE USED.** Turn in clinician's music to the clinic chairperson.
  8. Each INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL PERFORMING GROUP will receive a certificate of performance or may purchase a PLAQUE. (Use the PLAQUE ORDER FORM.)
  9. Each participating school that does not perform will receive a certificate of participation.

*All above guidelines must be followed or the director and/or school risks being placed on probation and/or barred from participation in future clinics.*

### I. REGISTRATION

The registration can be found on the SCMEA Choral Division webpage. Registration is not complete until the director completes all online forms, submits the Principal Authorization Form and PAYMENT has been received. The following forms must be submitted for registration to

**Camille Jones**  
**Gilbert Middle School**  
**120 Rikard Circle**  
**Gilbert, SC 29054**

- **ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM**
- **PRINCIPAL AUTHORIZATION FORM**
- **COPY of CURRENT NafME MEMBERSHIP CARD**
- **PAYMENT or ONLINE PAYMENT CONFIRMATION**

**Eligibility**—Participating choral directors must be members of SCMEA. A photocopy of your current NafME ID card must accompany the registration form. You will also be required to show your membership at the time of the performance. (If a student teacher is conducting, they will also need to present their membership card). An individual school may not register more than 2 (two) choirs. Additional choir registration requests may be submitted with initial registration and will be considered if schedule permits. Choirs must have at least 16 members in order to participate. If on performance day the choir does not have at least 16 members, they will receive adjudicator comments only. **ADDITIONAL CHANGE: No two (2) schools may combine to form one choir. Each individual school must be registered and sing as an individual entity.**

**Cost**—The registration fee is \$190.00 per choir and must be remitted with the registration form by December 12, 2019. Directors must submit a request for a refund for cancellation in writing via email to the Middle School CPA Committee Chairperson by the refund deadline of January 31, 2020. No fees will be refunded due to cancellation after January 31, 2020. Processing fees for online payments cannot be refunded. Checks should be made payable to SCMEA Choral Division. Repertoire changes can be made on the Repertoire Form. That form will be published after the schedule is completed. Any changes must be approved.

**Dates**—There will be **3 sites in 2020:**

**CHARLESTON:** March 25, 2020

**COLUMBIA:** March 26, 2020

**GREENVILLE/SPARTANBURG:** March 26, 2020

Requested performance locations, dates and times will be considered in the order applications are received. You will indicate a first choice and a second choice so please be ready to accept either site given. One site cannot be overloaded. If a teacher needs a special performance time, it must be requested on the registration form. Any other changes in the schedule will not be permitted. Please be prepared for any time on the day of your

performance. Late registrations, fees or paperwork will not be accepted.

**Dressing Rooms**—There will be no dressing rooms available at any site.

**Schedule**--The schedule for the festival will be communicated with the directors within two weeks of the close of registration. Verification of registration, posting of schedule, and performance site instructions will be communicated through email.

**Repertoire** - Choirs should perform appropriate choral literature. Choreography can only be used if it is written into the music or approved by the committee. Standard, high quality choral repertoire should be selected. Use choral clinic and state, regional, and national ACDA or NAfME honor choir repertoire lists as a guide. No pop or show choir repertoire will be allowed. Repertoire must be entered by the due date on the google form sent with the fall email. That form will be published after the schedule is completed. All pieces must be approved 4 weeks prior to the event and any changes made after this date must meet with the approval of the Middle School CPA Committee.

**Adjudicators** - Names of the CPA judges will be posted on the Choral Division website and announced by Choral Arts in September as well as at the SCMEA Professional Development Conference in February. Directors must not discuss the Choral Performance Assessment with the judges or use any of the judges as a clinician during the 2019-2020 school year.

## II. DIVISIONS

### Middle School Division:

#### **Requirements**

- \*Students in 6-8 Grades, housed in a middle or intermediate school
- \*Only Superior and Excellent results will be posted as an average with school named. All other results will be posted without the school name listed.

#### **Awards Given**

- \*Number scores awarded
- \*Ratings or Comments only
- \*For beginning or intermediate groups, new teachers, small schools, young singers, non-auditioned groups
- \*Plaques or trophies with Rating on them for Superior, Excellent
- \*Certificate for participation for a Good Rating
- \*Eligible for the Middle School Division Superiors CD

#### **Judging**

- \*Using a defined rubric
- \*Judges are made aware of the division and take that into consideration when adjudicating

#### **Sight-reading**

- \*Unison, 2 part (SA or SB), **SAB (new)**
- \*10% of the total score

- \*Rhythms: quarter, half, whole, repeated eighths
- \*Tonal: mostly stepwise with a few easier tonic triad skips

#### **Scoring\***

SUPERIOR = 90-100

EXCELLENT = 80-89

GOOD = 70-79

FAIR = 60-69

\*No scores are ROUNDED TO THE NEXT WHOLE NUMBER

### Advanced Middle School Division

#### **Requirements**

- \*Students in 6-8 grade, housed in a middle school or an intermediate school that is eligible for middle school events
- \*All results posted (including all judges scores and sight-reading)

#### **Awards Given**

- \*Number scores awarded
- \*Ratings only
- \*For advanced groups, larger schools, experienced teachers or auditioned groups
- \*Plaques or trophies given for Superior, Excellent
- \*Certificates given for a Good Rating
- \*Superior with Distinction Awards given to groups who receive Superior from all three performance judges *and* sight reading judge
- \*Eligible for the Advanced Middle School Division Superiors CD
- \*Special recognition for Superior with Distinction given on the Choral Division website

#### **Judging**

- \*Using a defined rubric
- \*Judges are made aware of the division and take that into consideration when judging
- \*Judges are made aware of the Superior with Distinction system prior to judging

#### **Sight-reading**

- \*2 part (SA or SB), SAB, SATB, SSA, SSAA levels will all be available
- \*20% of the total score
- \*Rhythms: quarter, half, whole, repeated eighths, moving eighths, dotted quarter eighths
- \*Tonal: I, IV and V chord skips
- \*One judge will be in the sight-reading room

- \*Choirs will be encouraged to observe other groups
- \*Notifications will be posted on the website and possibly listed other places (SC Musician)

#### **Scoring\***

SUPERIOR = 90-100

EXCELLENT = 80-89

GOOD = 70-79

FAIR = 60-69

\*No scores are ROUNDED TO THE NEXT WHOLE NUMBER

### III. DAY OF THE EVENT RULES

#### DAY OF THE EVENT REGISTRATION

1. The director must present the following documents at the registration desk:

**THREE ADJUDICATION JUDGE FORMS  
THREE COPIES OF EACH PERFORMANCE  
SELECTION (Measures numbered)  
ANNOUNCEMENT FORM (Include any phonetic  
spelling necessary)  
NAfME CARD OR PROOF OF MEMBERSHIP**

Only these documents will be accepted. No other paperwork /documentation should be included.

2. Only directors or student teachers need to register. Students should remain on the bus.
3. Teachers are asked to wait at least 30 minutes before returning to the registration area to retrieve your music scores/trophies/certificates before leaving for the day.
4. Adjudicator scores and recordings will be emailed within 24 hours of the performance day.

#### BEHAVIOR

1. Teachers must accompany their choirs to the festival and remain with them during the festival day. Please ensure that students are supervised at all times. Students are must be accompanied to the restroom by an adult.
2. No cell phones, pagers, hats, sunglasses, gum or any item that would interfere with the aural, visual and appreciation of the festival will be allowed in the performance area.
3. Students are not to wander in and out of the performance area, especially during the adjudication of another group.
4. There is to be absolutely no loud talking.
5. If a student displays unbecoming or illegal behavior or damages property, he/she will be put on probation for the next year. In addition, unbecoming behavior may jeopardize the school's participation for the next year.
6. No food or drink of any kind is allowed in the performing area.
7. No smoking anywhere on the premises.
8. Choirs are encouraged to observe other choirs respectfully during the performance. No performers or attendees are allowed to enter the performing area once a choir has begun their performance.
9. Each performing group is required to have at least one chaperone for every 10 students performing.

#### PERFORMANCE

1. Choirs are provided a warm-up room for twenty minutes. If your choir is late, you may forfeit that time. This will include a 15-minute warmup and a 5-minute travel time.
2. Choirs will sing two numbers only (effective 2020). **A warm-up selection is no longer allowed. Maximum total time on stage will be 10 minutes.** Choirs exceeding this time may possibly receive comments only.
3. Standard, high quality choral repertoire should be selected. Use choral clinic and state, regional, and national ACDA or NAfME honor choir repertoire lists as a guide. No pop or show choir repertoire will be allowed.

4. There will be no pre-recorded background accompaniment unless the tape is part of the composition. No accompanists will be provided.

5. Directors are to furnish three scores with numbered measures of each selection performed. Copied music will not be allowed without a letter of permission from the publisher.

6. Three performance judges will provide recorded scores and comments.

7. Separate ratings/scores will be given for performance and sight reading. The sight-reading score will count as 10% as the overall score/rating for middle school division and 20% for advanced division. Sight reading will be available from unison to four parts, depending upon the ability level of the choir. Students who perform in more than one choir may not sight sing the same sight singing example more than once. Choirs must perform the same classification or one less classification than the literature performed on stage.

8. Choirs may sing for comments only and will not be required to sight sing.

9. Only the choral director of the participating group may assist students in the sight-reading procedures. College students/student teachers, parents or accompanists may not provide additional assistance to students during the sight reading.

10. Directors are not to have contact with the judges until the end of the CPA unless permission is granted by the Choral Performance Assessment Committee.

11. Directors are to follow instructions given by the Choral Performance Assessment Committee on the day of the festival.

12. Directors are responsible for all students and their behavior while at the festival site.

13. Groups need to be dressed in proper concert attire: **NO JEANS.**

14. Photos and videos of groups will be taken at the festival. Any group that does not want their photo or video used on the Choral Division or Choral Performance Assessment website must submit it in writing to the choral festival chair at least one week prior to the event.

#### SIGHT-SINGING

1. All students must participate in both the choral performance and sight reading.

2. Appropriate music will be available for each choir, based on their stage performance classification. Choirs must perform the same classification or one less classification than the literature performed on stage. (ex. choirs who perform SATB literature on stage may sight-read SAB materials.)

3. The sight-reading music will not have lyrics. The conductor will specify the syllable(s) to be used by the singers (i.e. "loo, solfege, counting syllables, etc.).

4. Conductors and choirs will have five minutes of preparation time before the evaluated sight-reading performance. The evaluator will signal the conductor when one minute of preparation remains. Conductors must stop their preparation promptly when the evaluator indicates that the preparation time has expired.

5. The piano may be used only to arpeggiate the first (or tonic) chord and to sound individual reference pitches during the period of preparation. Two notes may not be played simultaneously on the piano. Two or more

consecutive pitches from a particular voice part may not be sounded on the piano. The conductor may use his/her voice in any manner he/she wishes during the preparation period. The conductor may change the key of the sight-reading selection to make it more appropriate for the choir that is singing.

6. After sounding the beginning pitches, the piano may not be used during the evaluated sight-reading performance. The conductor is prohibited from singing with the ensemble during the evaluated sight-reading performance.

7. Conductors and singers should heed any tempo indications, phrase markings, and/or dynamic indications in the sight-reading materials.

8. Chaperones are NOT allowed in the sight-reading room.

#### **AWARDS**

1. Ratings will be: Superior with Distinction (Advanced Division Only), Superior, Excellent or Good. Trophies will be given for Superior with Distinction, Superior and Excellent ratings. Directors are responsible for picking up their own awards. Awards will not be mailed at the cost of the choral division. Directors can arrange to pick up their awards with the committee chair.

2. Ratings will be given for sight singing. In the middle school division, sight reading will count as 10% of the overall rating/score. In the Advanced Division, sight reading will count as 20% of the overall rating/score.

3. Music scores, trophies and/or certificates can be picked up 30 minutes after your performance.

4. Special awards will be given in the Advanced Division for Superior with Distinction. A Superior with Distinction will be awarded to choirs in the Advanced Division that received Straight Superiors (including sight reading).

#### **IV. CONSEQUENCES OF RULES VIOLATION - NOTIFICATION**

1. One Rule Violation occurs. The choral director will receive a written letter from the committee stating exactly which standing rule was violated and that all guidelines must be followed or the director and/or school risks being placed on probation and/or barred from participation in future SCMEA Choral Division events if rules violations recur. The Principal will also receive a copy of the same letter if the violation compromised student safety at the event. Students involved in the violation will be barred from attending the same event the following school year for a period of one school year.

2. The same choral director (even if transferred to another school in S.C.) again fails to adhere to the rules or commits two or more Committee Rules violations during the same event. Choral director and school will be put on probationary status. The school choral director, school principal, and Choral Division President will receive written letters from the committee stating that the school may still participate, but the SCMEA By-Laws and Committee Rules serve a real and valuable purpose and it is the Choral Director's responsibility to adhere to them. The letter will contain the event, date, and quote the exact committee rule(s) that were violated. The letters will also direct committee members who teach in the same region of South Carolina to serve as a mentor during this probationary period and submit written documentation to

the committee chairperson. Lastly, the letters will state that a recurrence of future violations will result in the students involved, or the Choral Director and the school choral program being barred from attending SCMEA events for one year.

3. (a.) If the Choral Director continues to commit Committee Rules violations after #1 and #2 are issued, either the students involved, or the Choral Director and the school choral program will be barred from participation of all SCMEA Choral Division events for one year. (b.) If the evidence of violations is the direct result of the Choral Director's repeated negligence to review and adhere to the guidelines, the Choral Director (same or different school) and the choral program will be barred from participating in all Choral Division events for one year. The letters (a. and b.) will be mailed to the Choral Director, Principal, District Music Consultant, and Choral Division President containing the documented history of rules violations, dates, and quote the most recent committee rule(s) that were violated. Committee members who teach in the same region of South Carolina will continue to serve as a mentor during this period and submit written documentation to the committee chairperson.

#### **HIGH SCHOOL REGION CHOIR**

The purpose of the SCMEA Choral Division Region Choir is to provide an opportunity for vocally talented 9-12 grade students to work with a well-known expert clinician on a workshop format culminating in a concert presentation for the public. The experience will provide the following:

1. An opportunity for musical growth and development above the traditional classroom setting through the intense study of challenging repertoire.
2. An opportunity to encourage continued participation and support in local school choral programs.
3. An aesthetic gift to the local communities supporting the clinic.

#### **A. SELECTION**

If the school is located within the region of the clinic, directors may bring up to 16 vocalists in balanced quartets. If director has unbalanced quartets or they would like to bring more than 16 vocalists, they should contact the site coordinator before registering the students. Students must be active members of the school's choral program.

Upstate Region Site Coordinator: Dale Roth

Email: [daleroth@lcsd56g.com](mailto:daleroth@lcsd56g.com)

Phone Number: (864) 938-1936

Midlands Region Site Chair: Nicholas Todd Shumate

Email: [nshumate@lexrich5.org](mailto:nshumate@lexrich5.org)

Phone Number: (803) 448-7361

Northern Region Site Chair: Nicholas Todd Shumate

Email: [nshumate@lexrich5.org](mailto:nshumate@lexrich5.org)

Phone Number: (803) 448-7361

Lowcountry Region Site Chair: Jordan Boyd

Email: [boydjordan@bcscdschools.net](mailto:boydjordan@bcscdschools.net)

Phone Number: (704) 813-6317



## B. SELECTED PARTICIPANTS

1. Upon notification of acceptance, teachers will inform students of their selection and make appropriate arrangements. TEACHERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE MUSIC BY THEIR STUDENTS PRIOR TO THE EVENT. STUDENTS MUST BE ABLE TO SING THE MUSIC AND MATCH PITCH.
2. Registration will be held at 6:30 on the first evening of the event with the rehearsal following at 7:00. Rehearsals will continue through Friday followed by a concert Friday evening at 7:00 P.M.

Northern Region Choir will follow a different schedule. Make sure to see the schedule on the Choral Division website for more information.

## C. REGION CHOIR RULES

1. Dress Code for performance: NO DENIM. Schools should wear their performance attire or concert black.
2. Dress Code for rehearsals: Students are to wear normal school clothes that meet dress code policies for their school.
3. Students should be chaperoned at all times. Appropriate attentive behavior will be expected at all times.
4. All-State Chorus rules for behavior apply for the weekend.
5. **All students who attend rehearsals must participate in the concert.** Emergency situations will be excused.

## D. REPERTOIRE

Each school is responsible for the purchase of music for their students. The registration fee does not cover the cost of music. All students must have original copies of the must. Absolutely no photocopies unless the selection is in the public domain or written permission is granted by the publisher.

"Will the Circle Be Unbroken," J. David Moore  
SATB, Fresh Ayre Music FAQM-1072-01, \$2.95

"Zion's Walls," Aaron Copland/arr. Glenn Koponen  
SATB, Boosey & Hawkes, Inc. 48003920, \$2.15

"Ubi Caritas," Ola Gjeilo  
SATB, Walton Music WW1386 \$2.60

"My Very Own," Susan Labarr  
SATB, Galaxy Music 1.3490, \$2.05

"Abendfriede," Josef Rheinberger  
CPDL:  
<http://www2.cpd.org/wiki/images/4/4b/Rheinberger-Abendfriede.pdf>

"The Word Was God," Rosephanye Powell  
SATB (not SSAATTBB), Gentry Publications 08739771,  
\$2.35

## E. REGISTRATION

1. All registration will be completed online.
2. Registration deadline: **December 13, 2019**

3. Registration fee: \$10 per student
4. Questions about the registration process should be directed to Nicholas Shumate, [nshumate@lexrich5.org](mailto:nshumate@lexrich5.org).
5. If paying by check, all registrations should be paid with one check and should be made out to SCMEA Choral Division. Mail check or receipt from online payment, copy of online registration, and copy of NAFME membership card to:  
Dale Roth  
Clinton High School  
18132 Hwy 72 East  
Clinton, SC 29325  
[daleroth@lcsd56g.com](mailto:daleroth@lcsd56g.com)

## F. REFUND POLICY

Refunds will be given if the entire event has to be canceled due to inclement weather that affects the site. Individual school cancellations will not be refunded. All attempts will be made to reschedule the event. Schools who cannot come due to weather will be encouraged to participate in another region if possible.

## ALL-STATE CHORUS

The All-State Chorus program was organized to provide an opportunity for superior choral students in South Carolina to sing together and to represent the state in statewide events. Students who participate in All-State have an opportunity to further utilize the skills obtained and developed in their local school programs. The South Carolina All-State Chorus program provides an intensive and demanding vocal experience which fosters self-discipline and personal growth as well as musicianship.

## A. MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership in the All-State SATB, All-State SSAA Chorus and All-State TTBB Chorus is on the basis of total points received in the audition. Students in the 10th, 11th, 12th grades must be enrolled for credit for both semesters in a school choral program directed by a member in good standing of SCMEA and NAFME. Home-schooled students who are enrolled in a public or home school choral program for credit both semesters must provide documentation which qualifies them as 10th, 11th, or 12th grade student as well as a member of a South Carolina Home School Association at the time of registration. A copy of the director/member's current NAFME membership card should be sent with the registration form. A director may not sponsor students who are enrolled in a school other than his/her own. Failure to comply with these rules will result in the involved student(s) not being able to participate in the All-State weekend and their school being suspended from participating in auditions for the next academic year.

2. If your membership card expires between October and November, and you do not receive your new registration card before your November audition date, please take the time to call NAFME and have documentation that NAFME is currently processing your membership. This will prevent

slowing your audition process down while waiting for verification from NAFME National Headquarters.

## **B. REGISTRATION FOR AUDITIONS**

**1. Choral directors should limit registration only to students who possess superior musical skills. Audition registration information can be found at <https://choraldivision.org>.**

2. Teachers must submit All-State Audition Registration through the process designated by the All-State Chairman. The registration process is completed online, then followed by a hardcopy mailing.

3. Audition Request Forms must be signed by the sponsoring choral director and the principal of each participating school.

4. The audition fee is fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per student and must be remitted to the All-State Chairman along with a hard copy of the Audition Request Form. Please send only one school check, personal check, or money order payable to SCMEA Choral Division. Your check must be included in your registration mailing. Without a check, your registration will be considered incomplete and will be returned.

5. Registration forms and appropriate fees must be postmarked by Friday, September 27, 2019 (LATE AND/OR INCOMPLETE REGISTRATIONS WILL BE RETURNED. NO EXCEPTIONS!!). It is recommended that this application be sent by certified mail. Please send Registration to: Lizzi Elliott, Andrew Jackson High School, 6925 Kershaw Camden Hwy, Kershaw, SC 29067.

6. Once the audition request form has been submitted to the All-State Chairperson, no refunds will be made, no substitutions of names will be allowed, and no changes can be made. The audition schedule will be e-mailed and posted on the website by Thursday, October 10, 2019

## **C. REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS**

ALL REGISTRATION MUST BE COMPLETED ONLINE

Go to <https://choraldivision.org> and follow links to All-State. Follow all directions precisely and accurately. **All registering directors MUST have a working e-mail address that they check frequently. Please carefully check your e-mail address as you type it on the registration form.** Questions about eligibility and the online registration process should be directed to Lizzi Elliott at [Lizzi.Elliott@lcsd.k12.sc.us](mailto:Lizzi.Elliott@lcsd.k12.sc.us).

## **D. AUDITIONS**

1. Auditions will be held on November 4-7, 2019 at Cayce United Methodist Church, 1600 12th St Cayce, SC 29033.

2. Auditions will be divided into two phases:

- a) Prepared audition selection: SSATB "Alleluia" by Pergolesi, ed. Bird
- b) Sight-Singing

3. The prepared audition selection portion of the South Carolina All-State Chorus auditions will be blind auditions.

Students will be placed behind a curtain, screen, or partition. If this is not possible, judges will sit with their backs to the students.

4. Each student will be given a number of points on each phase of the audition. Individual singers will be selected according to their overall performance at the audition based on the total number of points received in the two phases listed above.

5. Basic techniques and sight-singing will be judged individually. The ensemble will audition in quintets before six judges. Three judges will adjudicate the Soprano 1, Soprano 2, Alto voice parts simultaneously, and three judges will adjudicate the Tenor and Bass voice parts simultaneously. Each student will receive scores from three judges for the prepared piece. Individual student scores for the prepared piece will be determined immediately. **The score range will be 0 – 50 from each judge. Each judge will award up to ten points in each of the following categories: Rhythmic and Timing Accuracy, Pitch and Intonation, Diction, Tone Quality, Musicality.** Scores from all three judges will be combined for a total score for the prepared piece. The maximum score possible for the prepared piece will be 150 (50 points from three judges).

6. Sight-singing material will be selected by the All-State Committee Chairperson and the Audition Coordinator. After successfully completing the prepared selection, all students will sight-sing individually for one judge in a separate audition room. After completing the sight-singing portion of the audition process, students will leave the building and have no contact with students who are waiting to go into the sight-singing room.

7. Sight-Singing Process: All directions will be given from a recorded prompt. Students may begin studying the example during the recorded prompt. The example will be 8 measures, and will be printed on two lines. (Four measures per line.) Students will be given the tonic triad and the beginning pitch. They will have 60 seconds to practice the 8 measure piece. After 60 seconds, the students will hear the tonic triad and the beginning pitch again. The students will have 45 seconds to sing through the piece. The student must set his/her own tempo. Count off tempo will NOT be given. The student may sing on solfège, numbers, la, ta, count-singing, etc. **The score range will be 0 – 20.** Students will receive 1 point for completing each half measure perfectly as written, two points for retaining tonic, and two points for flow (maintaining a steady tempo with no hesitations or restarts.) There will be one flow point for each line of music. This portion of the audition will not be blind.

If you have students that need special accommodations due to disabilities, please contact the audition coordinator.

### **Sight-reading Parameters:**

1. The piece will be in any major key.
2. It will start on Do and end on Do.
3. The most difficult rhythm will be a dotted quarter note followed by an eighth note.

4. Skips will come from the I, IV, and V7 triads. (Do, Mi, Sol; Fa, La, Do; Sol, Ti, Re, Fa)
5. There may be quarter rests.

**8. ALL STUDENTS MUST AUDITION COLLECTIVELY AT THEIR SCHOOL'S ASSIGNED TIME.** Although students may have previously been members of the All-State Chorus program, they will be required to audition again.

9. Absolutely no CD players, CD recorders, iPods, MP3 players, video/DVD recorders, radios, or text messaging devices will be allowed in or near the audition site. Cell phones are to be turned off and left outside the building. If a student is found using any device listed above within the audition site building, the device will be confiscated immediately. That student's teacher must pick up the device for the student before leaving the premises.

10. No changing of clothes on site.

11. Students must sing the prepared piece in complete quintets. Fill-in parts to complete the quintets will not be provided. **IT IS THE TEACHER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS WITH ANOTHER SCHOOL'S SINGERS TO COMPLETE QUINTETS BEFORE REGISTERING ONLINE. YOU WILL THEN REQUEST TO BE SCHEDULED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE SCHOOL FROM WHICH YOU ARE BORROWING STUDENTS.** Teachers should notify the All-State Audition Coordinator in this circumstance. No students who are ineligible to audition will be allowed to complete quintets. No teacher may fill in quintets. You may not borrow singers from another school if you have at least one complete quintet.

12. The number of quintets per school must not exceed the largest number of students registered in a vocal part. If you have cancellations at audition time, you must adjust your quintets to comply with this rule.

13. Students who act as fill-in voices with another school must postpone their personal sight-singing portion of the audition process until they have completed acting as a fill-in voice. This is to prevent the passing of sight-reading information from student to student prior to their entering the sight-singing audition room.

14. Teachers must be present with their students at the auditions. Students not accompanied by their own teacher will not be allowed to audition.

15. **No** photocopied music will be allowed.

**16. All incidents or exceptions pertaining to the All-State rules and regulations will be subject to review by the All-State Committee and could result in consequences to the school and/or student(s) involved.**

## **2019 Judges**

Dr. Christ Sheppard, Newberry College  
 Dr. Seth Killen, North Greenville University  
 Erick Figueras  
 Walter Graham  
 Beth Mears  
 Erin Phillips  
 Mike Ramsey  
 David Richardson  
 Glenda Snead

## **E. SELECTED PARTICIPANTS**

1. The All-State Chorus will be comprised of three ensembles (SATB, SSAA, TTBB) chosen at random from the highest scoring students. No alternate All-State Chorus members will be selected nor may any teacher make any substitutions. Failure to comply with the substitution rule will result in the substituted students not being allowed to participate in the All-State weekend and their school being suspended for the next academic year.  
 2. Selected participants and score sheets will be posted on the scfas.net website. Cut-off scores, and other information will be emailed to each director after auditions have been completed. **It is the responsibility of the director to double-check the scores and notify students of their acceptance into the All-State Choirs.** If you do not receive an email, or have questions about scores, please contact Lizzi Elliott, Audition Coordinator.

3. Schools that do not have any students selected may be invited to bring their top scoring student to participate in the All State Chorus weekend. The highest score from the school must be over 100 in order for an invitation to be extended. The student will be a part of the All-State choir but will not be eligible to receive scholarships from colleges due to All-State acceptance.

4. **Teachers are responsible for the preparation of the music by their students prior to the All-State weekend.** In the event an unbalanced group is chosen from any one school, cooperative learning rehearsals may be conducted by combining two or more schools. Teachers should not expect students to learn the music entirely independently. Rehearsal tracks will be provided for each student along with the registration.

5. **Attendance:** All students that have been selected for the All-State Choirs must attend 100% of the All-State Weekend. **All absences will be reviewed by the All-State Committee and could result in consequences to the school and/or student involved. All written documentation pertaining to absences must be submitted to the All-State Weekend Coordinator two weeks prior to the All-State weekend. In case of an emergency, you must provide documentation at All State registration.**

**F. ALL-STATE CHORUS WEEKEND RULES**  
**TEACHERS AND STUDENTS MUST BE PRESENT AT ALL ALL-STATE ACTIVITIES, i.e., general auditions, rehearsals, special auditions, performances, etc.**

## TEACHERS MUST STAY AT THE SAME HOTEL AS THEIR STUDENTS.

1. In addition to the names of students selected for each choir, the following will be posted on the website: Registration, Parent Permission/Rules, Meals, T-Shirts, Schedule.
  2. **In addition to the non-refundable audition fee,** a non-refundable All-State Chorus weekend registration fee of **forty dollars (\$40.00)** will be required of each student participating in the All-State choirs. **This registration fee must be remitted by December 13, 2019.** (Late payments will result in a possible rule violation.) Please send only one school check, personal check, or money order payable to SCMEA Choral Division. You may pay for registration and meals (if you choose to eat in the cafeteria) in one check as long as you submit the checks with the appropriate information. **If your school district is submitting a check, please make sure that your school information is indicated and mailed with the check.**
  3. T-shirts and pins will also be available for purchase ahead of time on the registration form. These items **will not** be available for purchase at All-State Weekend.
  4. The following items will be available for purchase at All-State Weekend;
    - A. CDs and DVDs of the concert performance
    - B. Plaques with individual student names, voice part, and choir.
  5. Rehearsal Guidelines:
    - A. Dress for rehearsals will be informal-regular school clothes. (Hats, sunglasses, or any other item that would interfere with rehearsal are prohibited. Only knee-length shorts are permitted.)
    - B. No gum, no talking, no tobacco products!
    - C. Each student is expected to devote his/her full attention to the director at all times in all rehearsals and performances.
    - D. Each student must bring a pencil and his/her music to ALL rehearsals, even if the music is memorized.
    - E. Each student will need a black folder for use at the concert.
  6. General Guidelines:
    - A. Students will be dismissed from All-State participation on the following grounds:
      1. Vandalism of any kind- the student's school will be held responsible for damages.
      2. Possession of drugs without a doctor's prescription.
      3. Possession and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages.
    - B. Disciplinary action, *not* excluding dismissal, will be taken on the following grounds:
      1. Failure to adhere to attendance, housing, and rehearsal regulations.
      2. Violation of curfew.
3. Any behavior found to be unbecoming by the All-State chairperson or his/her representative.
  4. Cell phones, iPods, MP3 players, personal tape players, CD players, or radios with headphones are not to be present during rehearsals. If a student is found to be in possession of these items during the rehearsal, the student's name will be taken and the director will be notified. If the same student is found to be in possession of the items for a 2<sup>nd</sup> time, they will be removed from participation in the All-State Choirs, and will be turned over to the director as an "Auditing Singer"
  5. Teachers are responsible for the conduct and behavior of their students throughout the entire All-State Weekend.
- C. Any dismissed student may cause his/her school to be suspended from participation for one year. An explanatory letter will be sent to the student's parents, choral director, school principal and district administration.
  - D. Members of the All-State Chorus will adhere to the following concert dress. All attire will be checked for compliance prior to the concert. Students not in compliance with the dress code **WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM SINGING IN THE CONCERT** and will put the school in jeopardy of suspension from All-State participation for one year. If you are unsure that your uniform is compliant, contact the All State Weekend Coordinator.
    1. Tenors/Basses: Tuxedo consisting of a white tuxedo shirt, black tie, black tuxedo pants, black tuxedo jacket, black socks, black and dress shoes. Tails and a WHITE or BLACK vest/tie/cummerbund are acceptable. Alternately, students may wear a black sports coat with black slacks accompanied by a white dress shirt and solid black tie with black socks and black dress shoes.
    2. Sopranos/Altos: **Black ankle-length** concert dress or an ankle length black skirt with a black top of similar or complementary fabric. (No cocktail or formal [prom] dresses allowed, no denim, no show choir dresses); medium- to low-heeled black shoes no more than 2 inches in height. No spaghetti straps on blouses or dresses allowed. No bare midriffs, no bare backs. Necklines should be modest and appropriate for a concert. No slits in dresses or skirts above the bottom of the knee cap. Alternately, students may wear black dress slacks with a black dressy blouse, black pantsuit/skirt suit (skirt must be ankle length) with medium- to low-heeled black shoes no more than 2 inches in height.
  - E. The All-State Choruses will present a public concert at *Winthrop University* on **March 7th, 2020, at 3:00 p.m.** Only participants will be

allowed to attend any activities of the All-State Chorus Weekend. No one other than All-State members, official chaperones, and teachers may be present at hotels, rehearsals or facilities connected with the All-State events. No children, even those whose parents are choral directors, will be allowed at any All-State rehearsal. All chaperones must be at least 21 years of age – preferably older. All SCMEA members are welcome to attend any part of the All-State weekend even if that member does not have students participating in these events.

**F. All incidents or exceptions pertaining to the All-State rules and regulations will be subject to review by the All-State Committee and could result in consequences to the school and/or student(s) involved. Requests for exceptions due to extenuating circumstances must be submitted in writing to the All-state Committee Chairperson two weeks prior to the All-State weekend.**

## SOLO AND ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL

The Solo and Ensemble Festival provides students the opportunity to perform before an adjudicator. The adjudicator provides a written and verbal critique of the performance and awards a rating based on defined criteria. There is also a chance for high school students to participate in a scholarship competition during their senior year.

### Solo and Ensemble Rules and Regulations

#### A. INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

1. Registration forms located on the Solo and Ensemble page of the SCMEA Choral Division website must be mailed by **January 17, 2020**. This is for all sites and dates and must include all items.
2. The fees should be included with the registration forms. **Late registration or registrations without fees will not be accepted.**
3. Teachers must be members of SCMEA and NAFME. A copy of your current membership card **must accompany** the registration.
4. Only students that are enrolled in your choral program or private instruction should be brought to the festival.
5. Ratings for each performance are as follows: I-Superior, II-Excellent, III-Good, IV-Below Average, V-Poor. Plus or minus may be added to the score.
6. Standard vocal literature is required. It is suggested that teachers choose good repertoire and avoid pop songs, show tunes, hymns, or contemporary Christian selections.
7. A Certificate of Achievement will be given for each performance. Pins are available for purchase for \$4.00 for those performers scoring a Superior Rating.

8. If you register over 15 solos or ensembles you will be required to bring an additional accompanist.

#### B. INFORMATION FOR ALL CATEGORIES

1. Solo and Ensemble events are available for students in the age range of the sixth grade through the twelfth grade.
2. All singers must perform memorized music.
3. All soloists and ensembles must furnish an original copy of the music for the adjudicator and accompanist. **PHOTOCOPIES ARE ILLEGAL AND MAY NOT BE USED.** Schools attempting to use photocopied music will be disqualified.
4. If performing literature that is out of print, the director must provide a letter from the publisher stating the music is out of print and they are given permission to copy and perform the music. If you print music from the Choral Public Domain Library, also print the cover page provided by CPDL.
5. All music presented to the adjudicator must have numbered measures.
6. Singers must have their own accompanist; accompaniment tracks are not acceptable.
7. Schools should arrive 45 minutes prior to their judging time. A 15-minute warm-up will be given for each school.
8. Festival performances with the exception of the scholarship division are closed performances.

#### C. ENSEMBLES

1. Small ensembles (2-6 performers) must prepare one memorized piece of standard choral literature performed without the director. Large ensembles (7-17 performers) must prepare two memorized octavos of music in contrasting styles and a director may be present.
2. Ensemble performances may be a cappella or accompanied. Each performing group will furnish an original copy of the music for the adjudicator and accompanist.

#### D. SOLOISTS

1. Students are encouraged to sing age-appropriate literature. (No pop songs, show tunes, hymns, or contemporary Christian selections.)
2. All students will sing one piece, by memory, for the judge. The judge and the accompanist must have original copies of the music.
3. Students are eligible to compete in the Advanced Division in their JUNIOR or SENIOR year after receiving a Superior rating in the High School Division in a previous year. Singing in the Advanced Division means the student will perform 2 pieces.

#### E. SCHOLARSHIPS

1. Soloists must have received a I (Superior) in the Advanced Division to qualify for the vocal scholarship.
2. Seniors who have received a Superior performing in the Advanced Division in their Junior year will not need to sing in the Advanced Division their Senior year. This student should sign up for the Scholarship Division only their senior year.
3. Seniors who have not previously received a Superior rating in the Advanced Division should register as a soloist and mark that they are intending to compete

for the scholarship. The scholarship fee will be paid on site if the student receives a Superior in their Advanced Division solo.

4. Each student entering the scholarship division should submit a Scholarship Division Résumé Form. This résumé should be mailed along with the school's registration form and meet the postmark deadline.
5. All soloists will prepare two memorized pieces in varying styles. One of the pieces should be in a foreign language.
6. Scholarship auditions will begin following the adjudication of the other divisions. Students and parents are invited to listen to the auditions. Each student will sing one song of their choosing. After all singers have sung one piece, the judges have the opportunity to ask the singers to sing their other selection. The number of students asked to sing a second piece is at the discretion of the judges. A second runner up, first runner up, and scholarship winner may be recognized.
7. The soloist receiving the scholarship must be planning to be a music major or minor at an institution of higher education in the state of South Carolina. Should the student change their major, or move out of state, the scholarship will be given to the first runner up.
8. The scholarship will be distributed in the following manner:
  - a. The sum of \$400 will be paid to the student after he/she submits transcripts of a successful completion of the first year of a music degree. Subsequently, another \$400 will be sent after the second and third years. The official school transcripts should be sent to the SCMEA Choral Division Treasurer. Contact information is located on the SCMEA Choral Division website.
  - b. One scholarship will be awarded at each festival site at the discretion of the judges.

## **HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT**

### **A. REGISTRATION**

1. CPA Dates  
Midlands: Monday, March 23, 2020  
Upstate: Thursday, March 26, 2020  
Lowcountry: Thursday, March 26, 2020
2. Participating choral directors must be members of SCMEA and present your membership card or proof of current membership. It is the director's responsibility to provide this information on online registration and to ensure that it is valid and current. If membership proof is not provided, performance will be denied. No refunds will be issued. Scans of your Principal Authorization form must accompany the Online Registration Form through the online submission link provided. Registration Forms, Principal Authorization Forms, Repertoire Forms, and materials must be completely filled out when submitted. Any Registration forms that are not completely filled out and turned in by the dates below will constitute a rules violation in which the appropriate steps will be followed as outlined by the choral division. These steps can be found at the end of the rules and

handbook. It will be at the discretion of the committee if the choir performs. If the choir does not perform, there will be no penalty.

3. The registration fee is **\$180.00** per choir and must be submitted with the Cover Sheet postmarked by **January 24, 2020**. Online registrations must be completed by 11:59 PM on **January 24, 2020**. Directors must submit a request for a refund for cancellation in writing via email to the High School CPA Committee Chairperson by the refund deadline of **February 14, 2020**. No fees will be refunded due to cancellation after February 15, 2019. Processing fees for online payments cannot be refunded. Any cancellations must be sent in writing/email to the Committee Chair dated no later than **February 14, 2020, at 11:59 PM**. Checks should be made payable to **SCMEA Choral Division**. Schools registering two or more choirs may submit 1 check for their school; however, checks (or any registration material) from middle schools will not be accepted by the high school choral festival committee and vice versa. \*\*Please, remember your Cover Sheet. **Note: Late registrations and/or fees will not be accepted.**

**Mail to: Lisa Cunningham  
852 Thackston Dr.  
Spartanburg, SC 29307**

4. The following classifications will be used for registration of choirs based on South Carolina High School League classifications:

AAAAA  
AAAA  
AAA  
A-AA

In addition, choral directors will classify their choir for one of two choices:

- a) Comments Only;
  - b) Ratings.
5. An individual school may not register more than 3 (three) choirs without approval from the High School Choral Performance Assessment Committee. Note: Choirs must have at least 16 members in order to participate. Additional choir registration requests may be submitted for consideration if the schedule permits. Registration for additional ensembles must be submitted and fees paid with the initial registration. If special requests are denied, the registration fee for those ensembles will be refunded.
  6. Choirs from the same division will perform consecutively within the parameters of the schedule template. Choirs must perform on the scheduled day and time in which they are assigned. Any exceptions will be made by the committee due to logistics and time constraints of the festival. These decisions are determined by the number of registrations received.
  7. Ensemble performance times will be assigned using a predetermined template based on the number of registrations per division, size of choirs, facility availability, number of ensembles per school, etc. The template will be created to allow choir assignments for logistical purposes of the festival (size, type, division, warm-up rooms, etc.). Commute times will be researched on MapQuest prior. Choirs with a commute of 2 hours 30 minutes or more will not be scheduled before 9:00 am unless otherwise arranged with the

choral director from the affected school. Choirs with the same director may be scheduled less than 1 hour apart. Choirs with the same director and from the same school will not be scheduled on separate days. Choirs from different schools who share one director may be scheduled on separate days.

8. The schedule of the festival will be EMAILED to registered choral directors. Verification of registration, posting of schedule, and performance site instructions will be communicated through email and posted on the Choral Division website. Directors need to provide 2 working email addresses that are checked daily and prevent festival emails from being blocked. It is the director's responsibility to make sure s/he has working emails that are checked and emails are being received. Directors are responsible for keeping up with deadlines, paperwork, and information that is distributed by email.
9. Festival day procedures will be sent out by email to registered directors prior to festival. Follow these procedures precisely.

## **B. PERFORMANCE PROCEDURES/RULES**

1. Choirs are provided a warm-up room for twenty minutes. Choirs must be ready to be collected by festival workers at least 3 choirs ahead of performance in the location that was reported to the Registration Desk.
2. If your choir is late, the warm-up time will be forfeited. The festival must stay on schedule (as much as possible) for all choirs involved. If your choir arrives past their assigned performance time, the choir will not perform.
3. Choirs will be adjudicated on TWO pieces. Each choir has the option of performing a warm-up piece first that will not be adjudicated. All repertoire, including the **warm-up piece** must not exceed 10 minutes of performance time. Travel time on stage and off will not count as part of the 10-minute performance time. For performances that exceed the 10-minute performance time, the choir will drop one rating.
4. Repertoire Requirements (including the warmup): Repertoire must be quality choral literature that is both festival appropriate and appropriate for each individual ensemble (voicing, genre of ensemble, etc.), **and all music should be memorized**. Judges have the discretion to take choice of repertoire into account for scoring using the performance rubric provided. Directors must site credible literature sources from which their repertoire was chosen. Acceptable sources may include but are not limited to SC All-State Chorus Concert Repertoire, ACDA repertoire lists, High School Honor Choral Clinic lists, graded literature lists, etc. Judges have the ability to take off points for choice of repertoire if they feel that the music chosen does not fit the voices within the ensemble. Any repertoire information that is not received by the deadline will result in the ensemble's omission from the program.
5. There will be no taped background accompaniment unless the tape is part of the composition.
6. Directors are to furnish three scores with numbered measures of each adjudicated selection performed. Copied music will not be allowed without a letter of

permission from the publisher included with each judge's copy and a copy for the Festival Chairman to be provided at Registration. If copied music is used without publisher permission, the choir will be able to perform for comments only.

7. Choral Public Domain Library Procedure: \*Print off the "Title" page of your piece that CPDL provides as a "cover" for your music, the judges' copies, and your accompanist (if applicable) and any other copies that you may bring with you. (For example: [http://www1.cpd.org/wiki/index.php/Missa\\_Hodie\\_Christus\\_natus\\_\(Josef\\_Cainer\)](http://www1.cpd.org/wiki/index.php/Missa_Hodie_Christus_natus_(Josef_Cainer))) Contact the chairman if problems arise with this procedure.
8. All performance judges will provide recorded digital comments.
9. Separate ratings will be given for performance and sight-reading.
10. All choirs will be required to sight-read. If a choir performed for "comments only" on stage, then "comments only" will be allowed in the sight-reading room.
11. Student teachers that are allowed by their mentor teacher to conduct at Festival may only conduct 1 of the 2 adjudicated pieces, must be a current NAFME member, and must provide their membership card at the Registration Desk with the Director. This information must be provided on the Registration Form of the ensemble. If it is omitted, the student teacher will not be able to conduct the choir.
12. Names of the festival judges will be posted on the Choral Division website and announced at Choral Arts in September as well as at the SCMEA Professional Development Conference in February. Directors must not discuss the Choral Performance Assessment with the judges or use any of the judges as a clinician during that school year.
13. Directors, students, chaperones, and guests are to follow instructions given by the Choral Festival Committee on the day of the festival.
14. Directors are responsible for all students and chaperones and their behavior while at the festival site. Electronic devices are strictly prohibited in the performance venue. This rule covers everyone in attendance, including students, teachers, chaperones, and parents.
15. If a problem occurs, schools may incur a rating deduction, dismissal from the festival, and/or probation and suspension with accompanying letters to the director and principals notifying them of the infraction or inappropriate conduct.
16. All site procedures must be followed.

## **C. SIGHT-SINGING PROCEDURES/RULES**

1. Appropriate music will be available for each choir based on their stage performance classifications (female, male, mixed). **Choirs are not required to sight-read in the same classification that they perform on stage (ex. choirs who perform SATB literature on stage may sight-read SAB materials)**. Please indicate your sight-reading preference on the registration form so we may know how many copies to order for each classification. Choirs may also opt to sight read down one classification if the program is new or in a growing

- state with a new director (i.e. a 5A school with a new choir director or a new growing program may sight read 4A instead of 5A).
2. The sight-reading music will have lyrics. However, the director may specify the syllable(s) to be used by the singers (i.e., "loo", solfège, counting syllables, etc.). Sight-reading the text is not recommended.
  3. Directors and choirs will have six (6) minutes of preparation time before the evaluated sightreading performance. The evaluator will signal the conductor when one (1) minute of preparation remains. Directors must stop their preparation promptly when the evaluator indicates that the preparation time has expired.
  4. The piano may be used only to arpeggiate the first (or tonic) chord and to sound individual reference pitches during the period of preparation. Two notes may not be played simultaneously on the piano. Two or more consecutive pitches from a particular voice part may not be sounded on the piano. The director may use his/her voice in any manner he/she wishes during the preparation period.
  5. After sounding the beginning pitches, the piano may not be used during the evaluated sight-reading performance. Likewise, the director is prohibited from talking or singing with the ensemble during the evaluated sight-reading performance. In addition, students and directors are prohibited from producing any audible sound that assists in keeping a beat.
  6. Directors and singers should heed any tempo indications, phrase markings, and/or dynamic indications in the sight-reading materials.
  7. Choirs from the same school must sight-read different sight-reading examples in the adjudication room. Voicing information on the registration form indicates how many sight-reading examples per voicing are needed for the festival.
  8. **The following lists should be used when aligning your choir for the sight-reading procedure. Students may NOT be used for two ensembles in the same category (for example, if you have a Chamber Choir that is your "Varsity" Mixed Choir, those students may not be used in another ensemble that is a "Varsity" Mixed Choir. Your "second" group must be your "Non-Varsity" Mixed Choir and will sight read "Non-Varsity" music in the sight-reading room. Further, Varsity students may not sing in Non-Varsity groups.**

#### *Varsity Choirs*

Top Performing Group Jr./Sr. Advanced Mixed Choirs  
 10th – 12th Grade Mixed Choirs  
 9th – 12th Grade Mixed Choirs  
 Jr./Sr. Advanced Women's Choirs  
 10th – 12th Grade Women's Choirs  
 9th – 12th Grade Women's Choirs  
 Jr./Sr. Advanced Men's Choirs  
 10th – 12th Grade Men's Choirs  
 9th – 12th Grade Men's Choirs

*Non-Varsity Choirs (A Varsity Choir from the same school must be present to qualify as Non-Varsity)*

9th Grade Mixed Choirs  
 9th – 10th Grade Mixed Choirs  
 9th – 12th Grade Mixed Choirs (if the school is represented by a Varsity Mixed Choir)  
 9th Grade Women's Choirs  
 9th – 10th Grade Women's Choirs  
 9th – 12th Grade Women's Choirs (if a Varsity Women's Choir is represented)  
 10th – 12th Grade Women's Choirs (if a Varsity Women's Choir is represented)  
 9th Grade Men's Choirs  
 9th – 10th Grade Men's Choirs  
 9th – 12th Grade Men's Choirs (if a Varsity Men's Choir is represented)

#### **D. BEHAVIOR**

1. Teachers must accompany their choirs to the festival and remain with them during the day.
2. All mobile phones, pagers, iPads or other electronic devices, hats, sunglasses, and gum are prohibited. Any item that would interfere with performances, aurally or visually, or the appreciation of the festival will not be allowed.
3. Students are not to wander in and out of the performance area, especially during the adjudication of another group.
4. There is to be absolutely no loud talking, laughing, loud disrespectful noises, or other performance disruptions.
5. If a student, chaperone, parent, or director displays unbecoming or illegal behavior or damages property, he/she will be put on probation for the next year. In addition, unbecoming behavior may jeopardize the school's participation for the next year.
6. No food or drink of any kind is allowed in the performing area.
7. **No smoking** anywhere on or around the premises.
8. Choirs are encouraged to observe other choirs *respectfully* during the performance.
9. If any interference occurs during a group's performance, those responsible will have to leave the performance site immediately with their directors, chaperones, etc., and will not be allowed to stay. A disciplinary note will follow and may result in probation or suspension of the school from future Choral Performance Assessment participation.
10. All choirs, directors, chaperones, bus drivers, etc., must remain in the designated "choral performance assessment areas." Instructional areas and wings on campus not designated for festival use are prohibited. Any campus visitor found in prohibited areas will be dismissed from campus. A letter will be sent to the school director and principal informing them of the disciplinary action. Disciplinary action could result in probation or suspension.

#### **E. AWARDS**

1. Ratings will be: Superior (I), Excellent (II), Good (III), Fair (IV), and Poor (V). Award trophies will be given for Superior and Excellent ratings in performance. In addition, if a Varsity choir earns straight Superiors in performance and sight-reading,



the rating will become Superior with Distinction. Performance ratings are determined by the rating opinion of 2 out of 3 of the judges. For example, Judge 1 awards a II, Judge 2 awards a I, Judge 3 awards a II. The Overall Performance Rating would be a II. In the event the judges award three different ratings, the Overall Performance Rating will be the middle rating. For example, Judge 1 awards a I, Judge 2 awards a II, Judge 3 awards a III. The Overall Performance Rating: would be a II.

2. Ratings, score sheets, and awards may be picked up by the **director only**.

## PERFORMANCE SITE:

### Consequences of Rules Violations

#### Levels of Notification

1. One rule violation occurs: The choral director will receive a written letter from the committee stating exactly which standing rule was violated and that *all guidelines must be followed or the director and/or school risks being placed on probation and/or barred from participation in future SCMEA Choral Division events* if rules violations recur. The Principal will also receive a copy of the same letter **if** the violation compromised student safety at the event.
2. Two rule violations occur: the same choral director (even if transferred to another school in S.C.) again fails to adhere to the rules **or** commits two or more Rules Violations during the **same** event. Choral director and school will be put on probationary status. The school choral director, school principal, and Choral Division President will receive written letters from the committee stating that the school may still participate, but the SCMEA By-Laws and Standing Rules serve a real and valuable purpose and it is the Choral Director's responsibility to adhere to them. The letter will contain the event, date, and quote the exact standing rule(s) that were violated. The letters will also direct committee members who teach in the same region of South Carolina to serve as a mentor during this probationary period. Lastly, the letters will state that a recurrence of future violations will result in the students involved, **or** the Choral Director and the school choral program being barred from attending SCMEA events for a period of up to two years.
3. (a.) If the Choral Director continues to commit Rules Violations after #1 and #2 are issued, either the students involved, or the Choral Director and the school choral program will be barred from participation at all SCMEA Choral Division events for up to two consecutive years contingent upon the severity of the violations.  
(b.) If the evidence of violations is the direct result of the Choral Director's repeated negligence to review and adhere to the guidelines, the Choral Director (same or different school) and the choral program will be barred from participating in all Choral Division events for a period up to two consecutive years contingent upon the severity of the violations. The letters (a. and b.) will be mailed to the Choral Director, Principal, District Music Consultant, and

Choral Division President containing the documented history of rules violations, dates, and quote the most recent standing rule(s) that were violated. Committee members who teach in the same region of South Carolina will continue to serve as a mentor during this period.

## REFUNDS

The following events do *not* offer refunds after fees are paid:

- All-State Chorus
- Middle School Clinics
- Region Choir
- Solo & Ensemble Festival

For these events, refunds will not be processed for any reason unless the Choral Division leadership determines it is necessary to cancel an event.

The following events do offer refunds for group cancellation by specific deadlines:

- Middle School Choral Performance Assessment
- High School Choral Performance Assessment

For these events, refunds will not be automatically processed. Directors must request a refund by the published deadline. The refund request must be submitted in writing via email to the event chairperson. Please note: online payment processing fees can never be refunded.

**SCMEA CHORAL DIVISION  
OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE AWARD  
PROGRAM GUIDELINES-HIGH SCHOOL**



The purpose of this award is to recognize excellence in musical instruction and performance for South Carolina middle school and high school choral programs.

To earn this award, qualifying programs must earn a Superior rating at Choral Performance Assessment *and* earn a minimum of 90 points out of a possible 100, as follows:

**Choral Performance Assessment**

**60 points maximum**

Superior with Distinction

60 points

Superior

50 points

**All-State Chorus**

**16 points maximum**

3A / 4A / 5A

4 points per participating student

1A / 2A

5 points per participating student

**Region Choir**

**8 points maximum**

Per participant

1 point

**Solo & Ensemble Festival (Superior)**

**16 points maximum**

Solo (per participant)

3 points

Ensemble

16 points

**Bonus Points**

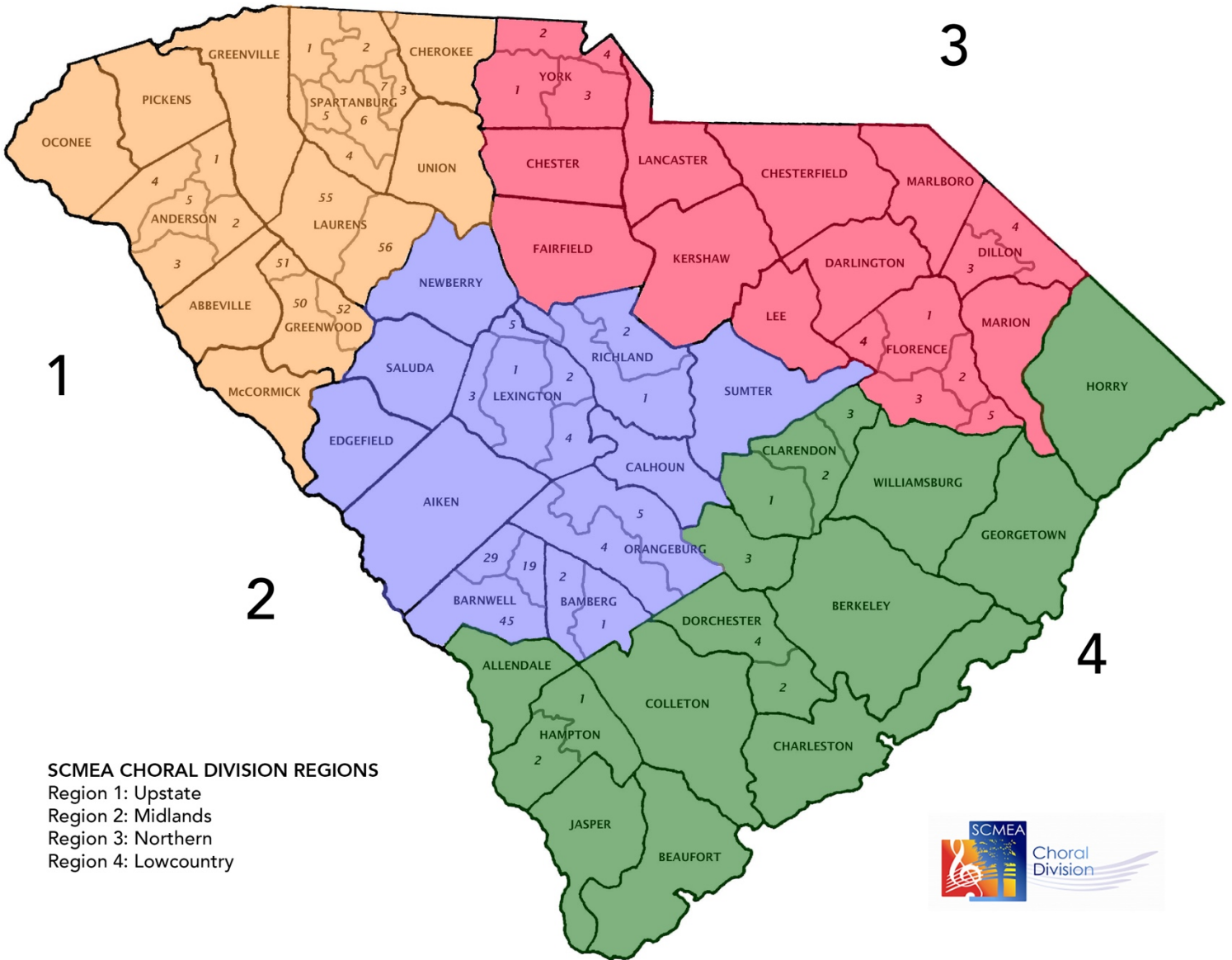
10 points

Performance in a Choral Division performance session at SCMEA Professional Development Conference (year of performance only)

Directors may apply for OPA in the Spring semester. All points will be verified by appropriate chairpersons. Directors whose programs are awarded OPA may then order trophies commemorating their achievement.

## CHORAL DIVISION REGIONS

The SCMEA Choral Division divides the state into regions to make sure all demographics are represented on Division committees. Regional events are not exclusive for the Choral Division as they are for other divisions; schools may attend events in any region in the state.



**SCMEA CHORAL DIVISION REGIONS**  
 Region 1: Upstate  
 Region 2: Midlands  
 Region 3: Northern  
 Region 4: Lowcountry

