

2016 IL-ACDA Summer Meeting

Tuesday, June 28, from 8:15-10:30 AM

Normal High School, Normal IL

Board Members in attendance:

Debbie Aurelius-Muir, Bob Boyd, Amy Branahl, Karyl Carlson, Brandon Catt, Sarah Catt, Laura Coster, Susan Davenport, Renee DeJager, Aubrey Dunham, Drayton Eggleston, Mark Grizzard, Keith Hampton, Jason Hawkins, Andy Jeffrey, Andy Jensen, Brian Kuntsman, Lee Kesselman, Ben Luginbuhl, Diane Marelli, Dennis Morrissey, Sean Newman, Jess Palmisano, Jennifer Seiler, Josh Spear, Phil Spencer, Tom Stauch, and Dan Wagner

Welcome new Board Members: Dennis Morrissey

- Renee DeJager, Children's Choir
- Jess Palmisano, Student Representative from University of IL

Minutes from the Winter 2016 Meeting, Peoria

- Laura Coster drafted the January 29th meeting minutes
- Motion to accept the minutes was made by Andy Jeffrey, 2nd by Bryan Kuntsman

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Amy Branahl

- 116 have registered for the retreat. This exceeds our registration goal
- Amy suggested that we include a one day price due to questions from interested members
- Women's Choir Festival \$50 shortfall was discussed and resolved
- Honors Show Choir Festival profit was discussed and it was agreed by board members that the profit should go into the general fund. Kassy will be asked to provide a budget for this year and the board will provide for the needs of the festival in 2016
- Congratulations to our Andy and Brandon, membership co-chairs: We have 47 student memberships this year compared to 32, last year
- Sing Up is 3 weeks in the fall and college memberships continue for the year. Amy will meet with Andy and Brandon
- Proposed budget for 16-17 was created by Amy
- Amy will send it to National as soon as it is approved
- Board members need to turn in their form for reimbursement for the hotel expense this week or e-mail the receipt before July
- Amy printed out red vouchers for the first 115 registrants to ensure they get a packet. She reminded everyone to remember to register early to secure reading packets
- We received all four of our quarterly installments from National
- Amy received \$120 for Podium ads this past year
- National Convention reception: Do we need to allocate money?
- ILMEA reception: Hoops is getting too small. Dennis will check with Darcy for suggestions and he will let her know our decision. Tom suggested that we ask for a free

room at one of the hotels. Bob reiterated that we need to talk with Darcy in a timely fashion.

- We may need to budget more than \$1300.
- Jason suggested the Lexus room at the Civic Center
- A reception at the National Convention was discussed and it was decided that it was not necessary.
- The board agreed to up special projects to \$4000 for the Urban Initiative. Karyl will also seek financial help from National.

Aubrey Dunham: Female Choirs

- Sing and Share 2016 Festival Re-Cap
 - A very successful Women's Choirs Sing and Share Festival was hosted on Thursday, February 4, 2016 at College of DuPage. A special thanks and shout out to Lee Kesselman for all your help and support to make this event happen!
- Future festival considerations:
 - Raising participation fee to \$65 or \$75 per performing ensemble to help alleviate technical production costs for facility rental.
 - Limiting number of participating ensembles to 16 (or a change in festival format will need to be discussed).
 - Continuing to have 4 clinicians
- Illinois ACDA Sing and Share Festival 2017
 - Save the Date: Thursday, February 2, 2017
 - Location: McIntosh Arts Center, College of DuPage
 - Clinicians (tentative): Donna Tallman (Elmhurst College), Susan Monninger (Elmhurst College), Mona Wis (North Central College), and Beth Holmes (Millikin University)
 - Potential Collegiate performing headliners: North Central College Women's Chorale and/or Elmhurst Women's Choir

Dan Wagner: Podium Editor

- Podium deadline was August 15th and is extended to September 19th.
 - R&S articles are needed from Jazz Choirs, Music and Worship, University Collegiate, District Reps. 1, 4, and 8, Youth and Student Activities, and an article on the composition winners from the summer convention.
 - Dan will update the podium to include the new board members.

Jason Hawkins: Website

- Send Jason information you would like to post on the website.
- Check your board posting to see if your pic and e-mail is correct.
- Phil-Update the docs and send it over with a photo of this year's composition winner with a link to her piece.
- Some event pages are blank:
 - Collegiate Choral Fest
 - 2 year festival is blank

- Men's fest is blank
- Honors Show choir info.
- Events/job posting/
- Bob suggested that Jason announce job openings at the retreat

Andy Jensen: Youth and Student Activities

- Andy met his goal to establish student centered activities at the retreat
- He met with Jes Palmisano in Chicago ACDA at the reception and discussed:
 - What would college students find helpful and interesting?
 - They created a list and came up with ideas we will use at the retreat
 - His goal is to help develop students into colleagues and help them gain resources before they find jobs

Renee DeJager: Children's Choir

- Goal: Renee wants to connect with other directors at ILMEA
- IMEC: Renee is presenting about the importance of singing in the elementary school curriculum. She wants to go through ILMEA to get other elementary directors involved in an ACDA Children's Choir. She is interested in creating a possible festival

Mark Grizzard: Men's Choir-

- Mark is interested in creating a Men's Festival in the next year or so

Susan Davenport: College and University Choirs

- Susan is working to create a festival or a time for college directors to get together and talk. Budget issues continue to be an issue for choirs to travel

Deb Aurelius-Muir: Middle School/JH Choir

- Deb had an exchange with another middle school director. He brought his choir and the students sang for one another. Tim Fredstrom was the clinician. They wanted the kids to interact by talking and listening to one another
- Deb also talked with Ben L. about the District 3 Festival
- Kyle Brubaker and Deb would like to sponsor a session using an application called ForAllRubrics.com
 - It is a way to collect student performance data. The teacher creates their own rubric and system of scoring. The students use an online portfolio to track their progress
 - This is coupled with google classroom which enables students to send audio and video files to their teacher to grade at their leisure

Keith Hampton: Ethnic and Multicultural Choirs

- Keith shared about his exchange on April 9th which included CCC and a Lithuanian choir
- He is interested in finding other ethnic choirs that would be interested in sharing music together
- April 1st will be another a choir exchange for any ethnic choirs that are interested

Tom Stauch: 2 year College Chair:

- The College Festival will be scheduled again in the spring
- The date may need to be shifted this year. Tom will give us an update at the next meeting

Jennifer Seiler: Vocal Jazz

- Jennifer is a new member to the board and has been speaking with past Vocal Jazz chairs to gain ideas about the position

Brandon Catt and Andy Jeffrey: Membership Chairs:

- Goal is to keep about the same number of members next year by ensuring that new people stay members. He is working to organize a Google Doc for District Reps that will help them see who is a member in their area
- Brandon and Andy intend to contact all of the college students attending ILMEC to offer them memberships

Andy Jensen: Youth and Student Activities

- Goal met-Andy established student centered activities at the retreat. He met Jes Palmisano in Chicago ACDA at the reception
 - They discussed what college students would find helpful and interesting and created a list of ideas we will use at this retreat
 - Being in ACDA Now we can develop colleagues and give them resources before they find jobs

Diane Marelli: District 1 Representative:

- Diane just retired and suggested that it is best to find someone teaching in District 1 to be the IL-ACDA representative
- She is willing to help with accompanists for the conventions and help out as needed

Ben Luginbuhl: District 3 Representative:

- Ben communicated at his District Festival that he wants to include the non-public school teachers
- He also wants to contact church choir and Children's Choir directors in his district

Josh Spear: District 4 Representative

- Josh discussed that teachers in his district see ILMEA as their primary professional organization. There is only one other teacher in ACDA from his district. Josh is also the choral rep. for IMEA and he is encouraging teachers to look into IL-ACDA

Sean Newman-District 7

- Sean created an introductory IL-ACDA pamphlet to give to potential new members in his district

- He encouraged other district reps to use it as a template to create their own pamphlet
- The pamphlet includes a title page, history of ACDA, organizational structure of IL-ACDA, upcoming events, how to join, and a “get to know your board member” section. It is on a publisher doc.

Drayton Eggleston: District 8 Representative

- The current list of members is helpful. Many people are involved, but the farther west, the less membership. He asked ILMEA for a district list and will continue to invite other choral director’s in his area to get involved with IL-ACDA

Bryan Kunstman: District 9

- Created a contact list for his district
 - He e-mailed area directors and introduced himself and let them know about the retreat
 - He wants to develop a uniform document for other districts
 - He is currently looking at the list of who is a current member in his district. How many elementary teachers, etc? How do we use the list to glean more memberships? Is there a way to go back 10 years to see who was a member previously?

Reports from the Executive Board:

Karyl Carlson: Urban Initiative.

- There will not be a spring festival but Karyl hopes they will have one in the fall
- Karyl would like to provide a festival opportunity for rural areas of the state
- Voices Chicago: Came out of a meeting...see attached sheet provided by Karyl
- Proposed budget will be provided prior to the festival for the grant
- Profits from IL Festivals-The grant money belongs to National ACDA
- Amy-IL money will be earmarked for our state. This process makes it easier for Nationals when they audit
- The board agreed to up special projects to \$4000 for the Urban Initiative. Karyl will seek more financial help from National

Lee Kesselman: Special Initiatives-Internal Grants and Seed Money

- Grants to serve new members or existing members
- Advance the mission of the state of IL
- Lee agreed to generate a form as suggested by Amy

Dennis Morrissey: President’s comments and summary about membership

- Membership should be a part of everyone’s goals

- Andy had several goals to focus on student members involved from the out \$5 initiative. The numbers are a bit deceiving. We have students who enroll for a year and then they don't renew their membership.
 - Goal-to continue their membership after the first year. At ILMEA, they enrolled about 30 kids. They gave out free registrations (3)
 - We are up about 9%.
 - 691 members last fall and 730 in May!
 - We need to continue to reach out to get people to keep their membership active.
 - Special thanks to Andy for getting contacts and zip codes in a spreadsheet.
 - Face Book for student members
 - Thanks to Sean who created a pamphlet to give to potential new members.

Board Member Comments on membership

- Brandon-qualitative notes: Brandon asked why two graduate students didn't renew and they said they didn't renew because they experienced no benefit
 - Maybe our focus should be to encourage people to come to the retreat
 - State conference- When there isn't one, HS directors lose an opportunity to bring a choir and have kids be in an honors choir
- Andy: Suggested a collegiate mentorship program- National ACDA has a mentor program. Perhaps we can connect a student with someone in the state. We can give them a point of contact for their first year of teaching. If they don't connect, they probably won't come back again
- Raffle for vendors: a couple of questions-If there are new people, try to send a follow up e-mail
- Jess Palmisano said she wished the party was at the beginning so the students could connect to someone already in the field
- Drayton suggested that we host a booth at ILMEA. College kids walk through the exhibits. We could invite them to the reception and give them an ACDA sticker
- Also reach out to the people that have been here a couple of years and didn't return.
- National Conventions will help keep the number of memberships to rise
- Older members have decided we are not a primary organization for them
- Renee-Have we ever have an incentive? Give some members money off the retreat cost if they bring a friend
- If school administrators offered continuing ed. credit for their choral teachers, it would help us
- Phil: We can look into offering an institute day for choir teachers through IL ACDA

Reports and Summary on the National Leadership ACDA Conference: Dennis and Amy

- Our rooms were comps. This saved approximately \$700 from our budget
- They had meetings for everyone. Amy attended separate meetings for treasurers. She was pleased to network with others from all over the US
- We are currently with PNC Bank. In one year, there will be a national bank at ACDA headquarters in OK
 - There were issues with some state budgets and how the money was being used

- It will take a little bit longer to process checks
- All checks will be coming from national
- Dennis appreciated the connection with 100 people including members from Hawaii and Alaska
- Tim Sharp talked about the past and where they are going in the future
- Better communication is needed. Our national tech. system is antiquated
- Nationals is currently researching about membership, equity, and who we should be in the future to meet the needs of all choirs in America

Other questions and ideas to consider in the future:

- ACDA sponsored Festivals-Should we give a donation to a school that hosts events?
- Retreat VS. Re Treat? Another a time a way and/or a great experience-Mary Hopper
- Should we pay the first year membership for new teachers? Can we afford it and should we? (Fall agenda)
- When will we provide another Fall IL-ACDA Convention? Lee will create a small exploratory committee
- Amy reiterated that most conventions have a registration chair. Many states hire someone to do all the registrations and organizational planning. No one coordinates and administrates our events. Should we consider this?
- Discussion continued that there was a need for an upfront administrator at the Naperville state convention. Handling tickets, directing the performing choirs, registrations, and reading packets was handled by the treasurer with inadequate help

Summer Retreat Dates confirmed:

- The 2017 Summer Retreat is scheduled on June 28-29 with headliners Dr. Sandra Snow from Michigan State and Daniel Alfonso, from Brazil

The September board meeting will meet at ISU on Saturday, September 17th 10-3 PM in Cook Hall in room 308.

Notes submitted by Laura Coster