

Illinois-ACDA BOARD REPORTS – June 2023

NOTE: The Treasurer's detailed financial Reports are in separate files.

Lisa Fredenberg, President-Elect

Recent Successes & Challenges:

The IL-ACDA website redesign is completed, with the help of Laura Coster, Paul Laprade, Jason Hawkins and input of many along the way in combination with the expert technology skill and advice of Kelly Schaub (of Colorado). The website had a visual redesign, several pages re-written, and a careful rearrangement in the flow of the site so that valuable information is easily accessible. As with any project, it is a starting point for any further change in the flow. The site is now mobile-ready and runs on the latest technology platform for WordPress.

President-Elect Position. The required president-elect election was run according to the By Laws of the organization. Paul Laprade was selected by the membership to fill that role. Many thanks to the past-presidents who served on the committee.

I worked with the R&R chairs to help tighten up the Reading Session given at ILMEA. In my humble opinion, it was successful due to the exceptional skill of Monica Bertrand at the helm of a dedicated group of repertoire chairs. Gratitude to all involved.

IL-ACDA is in need of an update of the By Laws and perhaps the creation of a Handbook to assist all members, committees, board members and executive board members in the process of the organization. In a volunteer organization with healthy turnover, a firmly outlined process will safeguard the mission and scope of the activities of the group and give all involved a firm footing in a way that promotes creativity and avoids unintended consequences. In this update, some discussion about the unwieldy size of the board should take place. This extra large board tends to put more work on the shoulders of the Exec Board.

Activities in Progress:

At the writing of this report, the Summer ReTreat 2023 is in good shape and ready for the membership to enjoy. The ReTreat was planned to be purposefully inclusive of a spectrum of ages, especially the younger choirs that members conduct and highlights Illinois clinicians, Andrew Megill and Emily Ellsworth. The theme, Artistry for All Ages was approved by the Exec. Board and again, was purposely designed to attract conductors of all genres, educational and otherwise.

Goals: This is not a goal, per se, but I wish IL-ACDA the very best as they move boldly into the future.

Paul Nielsen, Treasurer

1) Reconciliation Summary • Starting balance was \$50,442.84 • Current Balance is \$47,957.014.

Note: Allotments from National have decreased due to membership decreases.

2) 2022-2023 Fiscal year budget progress (attached)

3) 2023-2024 Proposed Budget (attached)

Wrap Ups

Treble Festival North - At this point, we are showing a profit of \$869.74. We are still expecting an invoice from College of DuPage for around \$1120.00. Estimated loss for this event: approx.. \$250.00

Treble Festival Central - Collected: \$580.59 Expenses: \$400.00 NET: \$180.59

9/10 Festival - Collected: \$1438.00 Expenses: \$1702.99 NET: \$515.01

Additional questions/concerns may be addressed to my email: nielsenacda@gmail.com

Thank you for the privilege of being able to serve this fine organization! Paul Nielsen

Paul Laprade, Secretary

Activities: Assisting with communication, meeting with Exec Board, keeping records, reaching out to members, arranging food for the ReTreat Exec Board meeting, communicating with National ACDA Leadership, and

Goals: Preparing the next Secretary for this position, learning more about my role as President-Elect, and obtaining the training I need for my next role in IL-ACDA.

Historian, Janet McCumber

Recent successes & challenges:

- There is still work to be done on the history portion of the website. Due to finishing up the spring semester and diving right into teaching an online summer course, that has been put aside for now.

Activities in progress: None

Future plans & goals:

- My first project will be to compile a history of the founding of IL-ACDA for inclusion on the website. Hopefully there will not be too much reinventing of the wheel! Several of the content areas, such as reading sessions, need to be updated.

Membership Co-Chair, Kayley Smetana

Recent successes & challenges:

Successes:

- Began a project collecting data for choir directors across the state. Created a spreadsheet with all high schools in the state of Illinois separated by ILMEA district. Collected information for each school - do they have a choir program, who is their director(s), what is their contact info, are they a member of ACDA, etc.
- Sent emails to every collected email address before IMEC inviting directors to ACDA events. Many directors responded & expressed interest in attending and/or becoming a member

Challenges:

- Not all data provided is accurate, some directors can only be contacted via district website
- We are still working on creating stronger membership in central and southern districts

Activities in progress:

- Continuing the data collection process & outreach to directors outside of the Chicago metropolitan area

Future plans & goals:

- Continue collecting data - moving forward with middle schools/junior highs, university choirs, community and church choirs, etc.
- Create a membership profile that is diverse and represents all choral directors and performers across the state - not just those with existing connections to ACDA

Membership Co-Chair, Elizabeth Zarley

Recent successes & challenges:

- Formulating and distributing Constant Contact communications
- Updating Constant Contact subscription list

Activities in progress:

- Continue to help with the list forming of teachers and schools in across Illinois.
- Continue communication through Constant Contacts
- Brainstorming more ideas for connection via District Chairs in metropolitan areas.

Future plans & goals:

- Follow up with District Chairs about contacting lapsed members again.
- Assist Carol Munn with Middle School Festival at UIUC

Assistant Podium Editor/Advertising, Kristin Ramseyer

Recent successes & challenges:

- The Spring 2023 issue of the PODIUM came together late because I was editing for the first time. I don't have access to Microsoft Publisher and therefore didn't have access to a template. However, because I use canva.com for various graphics and am getting more comfortable with that web-based medium, I built this issue in Canva. I can share that web-based template with whomever would like to serve as the new Podium Editor (as Jonathan Cramer's successor) if that is helpful. I'm sure the Microsoft Publisher template can be made available as well.
- I am not continuing in my position at Quincy University in the Fall. I am going to spend the next year raising our newborn (due August 7, 2023!) and FINALLY finishing my dissertation. I'm not sure what the by-laws state regarding being a part-time DMA student/stay-at-home-mom and serving on the IL-ACDA board, but I would like to continue as the Assistant Podium Editor/Advertising. Let me know if I can continue in this role. If so, my new email address is kmusic30@gmail.com. I was supposed to lose access to my @quincy.edu email at the end of May but have not for whatever reason.

Activities in progress:

- I will be moving Advertising contact to kmusic30@gmail.com. I'll create a new Google Form for Ad submission and submit that to the webmaster.

Future plans & goals:

- The due date for Ads for the Fall 2023 issue is Friday, September 15, 2023.
- Pricing has been...
 - 1/8 page advertisement: \$40
 - 1/4 page advertisement: \$70
 - 1/2 page advertisement: \$120
 - Full page advertisement: \$200A 10% discount is offered for those who purchase Ads in all 3 issues of the PODIUM.

→ *Does this pricing need to change, or do we keep it consistent from year to year?*

Historian, Janet McCumber

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2-Year Community College R&R Chair, Irene Leites

Recent successes & challenges:

- Collected data from potential participants in the 2-year College Festival regarding participation in Spring 2024 rendition of the event
- Secured venue for 2-Year College Festival. Venue is able to provide digital video recordings of each participating choir's performance free of charge!
- Collaborated with IL-ACDA Executive to secure Seed Grant to get the festival off the ground again

Activities in progress:

- Preparing an online registration form for 2-Year College Festival
- Recruiting participants for 2-Year College Festival

Future plans & goals:

- Update IL-ACDA website with information regarding festival
- Seek out interesting content for Spring 2024 contribution in *Podium*

Treble Choirs R&R, Andrea Solya

- We held two very successful Treble Choir Festivals in February. I believe the Central Festival had 6 choirs in attendance and the North Festival had 15. Both festivals were fantastic and very smoothly run. The College of DuPage hosted the north festival again after two years of hiatus.

My three-year term expires this Summer as the Treble Choir R&R Chair. It has been an honor to serve the choral community in Illinois during the last three years.

Junior High R&R, Carol Munn

Recent successes & challenges:

1. Researched and selected pieces from MusicSpoke to present at the summer retreat reading session.
2. IL-ACDA Fall Conference Junior High Event: Hired clinician (Belford Hernandez), reserved rehearsal space and created the registration form for directors.
3. Unfortunately, a challenge this summer was securing a middle school demonstration choir for Emily Ellsworth for our Summer Retreat.

Activities in progress:

1. Preparing junior high reading session for the IL-ACDA Fall Retreat on Friday, Oct 27th
2. Finalizing rehearsal details and logistics for the Fall Conference middle school event. (ordering t-shirts, lunches and putting together a final itinerary for students) for Saturday, Oct 28th

Future plans & goals:

1. Planning a Jr High performance event for the Fall 2024.
2. Connecting with IL-ACDA Members and creating a space to discuss what ACDA can do for them as well as how to build membership at the middle school level.

Webmaster, Aaron Mejorada

Recent successes & challenges:

· I am new to the board and am thrilled to be a part of this! I look forward to serving our music community while continuing to learn from amazing music educators.

College Student Representative, Ryan Jones (Augustana)

I am new to the board and have nothing to report!!

ILMEA District Board Reports

District 1 Representative, Nythia Martinez

Recent successes & challenges:

- Article in Fall 2022 Podium and Spring 2023 ChorTeach - Nythia Martinez
- Walter Payton College Prep selected for IMEC 2024 - Nythia Martinez
- Senn High School performing at Ravinia: Beethoven 9 Expanded - Trevor Nicholas
- ChiArts Best of Day at IHSA Organizational - Charles Taylor
- Golden Apple Winner - Puja Ramaswany (Lakeview High School)
- Return to trips!: Grace Jeong (Whitney Young HS), Richard Nunley (Kenwood High School), Nythia Martinez (Walter Payton)
- Cook County Co-Teacher of the Year (Franklin Fine Arts Center - Anne Gray)

Activities in progress:

- DIC agenda items (multi-district membership)
- Brainstorming community building
- Summer activities
- Connections with collegiate and national chapters
- Fall conference social and membership events
- Join Voices Chicago - planning / reorganization; ILMEA to host

Future plans & goals:

- Continued celebration of diversity in IL-ACDA and ACDA
- Interested in creating more entry points for ensemble-singing appeal
- Plans for contemporary a cappella featured in ACDA initiatives?

District 3 Representative, Dr. Cory Boulton

Recent successes & challenges:

- A wonderful partnership of Choral Conducting Masterclasses at McKendree University and Bradley University. These were not ILACDA sponsored, but many attendees loved them so much they talked about joining ACDA and wanting more offerings like these masterclasses.

Activities in progress:

- Planning the ILMEA All-state preparation workshop in September
- Having 10 students from Bradley volunteer as hosts for the ILACDA Summer Conference
- Going through and contacting all D2 and D3 directors to make sure I have up-to-date information about who is teaching at these really small and transient schools/communities. Creating an email database to invite them to events.

Future plans & goals:

- ILACDA Summer Conference at Bradley in a few weeks.
- Working with First Federated Church to write a grant to do a student composition competition—wondering if IL-ACDA would also want to sponsor/partner.

District 4 Representative, Nick Brockamp

Recent successes & challenges

- Have been able to make contact with potential new members in District 4
- Still working to increase membership (continuing to look for ways to encourage members to join, including events within District 4)

Activities in progress: None at this time

Future plans & goals:

- Continuing to explore hosting a small *Sing and Share* festival within Sangamon County in hopes of expanding to include more ensembles
- Invite members to join future ACDA events

District 7 Board Report, Matthew Begale

Recent successes & challenges

- 9/10 Festival Success -171 participants -Students loved Sarah Catt
-Single Day, no learning ahead of time
-Growth -Less Music
- No need for separate S/A and T/B song

Activities in progress: 1) Analyzing needs of our district 2) Finalizing details and clinician for the 9/10 Festival 2024

Future plans & goals: 1) Maintain an active listing of memberships and schools

- 2) Plan a Grade 9-10 Festival for February 10, 2024. Currently in the process of securing a clinician and then will hopefully be able to provide an IL-ACDA contract for that.

District 9 Representative, Ali Kordelewski

Recent successes & challenges:

- · Assisted Matt and Monica with 9/10 Festival
- · Assisted Kayley with some of the names for District 9 to update the contact spreadsheet
- · Continuing to promote for ACDA and recruit

Activities in progress:

- · ACDA Treble Reading Session for the Fall Conference

Future plans & goals:

- · Help with the transition of the new District 9 Rep
 - Continue to find ways to connect those in ACDA in District 9
-

Diversity Initiatives Committee report

Recent successes & challenges

- Formed a new structure for Join Voices Chicago in terms of leadership and funding through ILMEA
- Failed to come to an agreement between DIC and exec team on a Summer ReTreat session topic

Activities in progress

- *Join Voices Chicago* - work as a subcommittee to oversee all operations and navigate working with ILMEA
- BIPOC Reception at fall conference

Future plans & goals:

With the facilitation of National DIC, work to repair relations and communication between DIC and exec team