

2018 IL- ACDA Winter Meeting Minutes
Friday, January 26 8:00 AM
Peoria

Board Members in attendance:

Bob Boyd, Monica Bertrand, Katie Bruton, Brandon Catt, Laura Coster, Jeffrey Delay, Aubrey Dunham-Prince, Drayton Eggleston, Eric Esparza, Curtis Fischer-Oelschlaeger, Jason Hawkins, Andy Jeffrey, Andy Jensen, Lee Kesselman, Ronald Korbitz, Bryan Kuntsman, Cristian Larios, Ben Luginbuhl, Dennis Morrissey, Sean Newman, Paul Nielsen, Jess Palmisano, Darius Polikaitus, Puja Ramaswamy, Jennifer Seiler, Andrea Solya, Josh Spear, Phil Spencer, Jeff Wilson

Welcome to our new board member: Lee Kesselman

Paul LaPrade- Collegiate R&R

Approval of Minutes from the Fall Meeting 2017

- Laura Coster drafted the minutes from the Fall meeting.
- Jason motioned to approve the minutes with a 2nd from Andy Jeffrey

Treasurer's Report: Paul Nielsen

- See individual treasurer's report for more detail
- Starting balance on 7-1-17 was \$48, 887.75
- Current balance is \$56, 900.23
- Special Projects
 - Fall Convention profit was \$4292.15 (mainly due to the show choir ticket sales)
 - Honor Show Choir (Fall Convention)-Ticket money was combined with the other ticket sales from the convention. The show choir performance makes a profit because it is the largest audience at the convention. The ticket profit doesn't show on the report and it appears as if they had a loss. This is not the case
 - Join Voices Chicago received \$3500 in grants and donations. IL-ACDA budgeted \$6000, Total expenses were \$7, 049.01. (\$2400 in the black)
 - Women's Choir Festival is in progress
 - ReTreat 2017-profit was \$2, 629
 - Fall Convention profit was \$4292.15 (mainly due to the show choir ticket sales)
 - Current budget and expenses are much better with electronic mail
- Andy Jeffery motioned to approve the treasurer's report with a second from Drayton Eggleston.

Reports of R&R Chairs & District Reps

- Board reports were emailed to the board members prior to the meeting. There were brief discussions about the reports with additional thoughts listed below:
- Andy Jeffrey-Men's R&R
 - Andy has a good contact with Matt Begal from Loyola HS. They plan to organize a men's festival in the spring.
 - Andy will develop a proposal to ask for financial support from the board.
- Podium-Monica reminded us that articles are due by February 9th. Please send in your articles directly to Monica.

- Aubrey Dunham-Prince-The upcoming 5th all female Festival will be held at College of DuPage.
 - There are 22 performing ensembles this year. Box lunches will be provided and there will be a collegiate headliner.
 - This event usually breaks even. Aubrey is asking for \$500 to help offset the funds

President's Report: Lee Kesselman

- We have a very active board! Lee thanked the IL-ACDA board members for their work. We have sponsored 7 choral events in the state over the last 32 months
- Special thanks to Brett Goad for chairing the fall convention again. Brett has communicated that he will not be chairing another fall convention. A volunteer is needed to chair this event if it is to occur again. Lee recommends that it should not be the same person that is the site chair
- Fall Convention Planning and consideration-Should we have another convention? District Reps can think about how to serve their districts.
 - Two locations emerged for a fall convention in the future
 - DePaul Fall Convention-Fall of 2019 Eric Esparza expressed interest. Dr. Jones is a possible headliner. Eric will check for availability
 - U of IL-Fall Convention-Andrea Solya expressed an interest and will see if the facilities are available. She is also open to a fall convention in 2021
 - Special thanks to Brett for administrating the Fall Convention
- Lee created a form to request for seed money for Aubrey and others to request funds for special projects
- Join Voices of Chicago-2nd festival for public schools. This year there were fewer choirs due to a date change. If you have ideas in which we can help serve the urban or under-served areas, these are good project ideas.
- Division Conference- Both conferences Central and North-Central are combined in Chicago this February
 - Mary Hopper was selected for the Stegman award and it will be presented at the convention
 - Brad Holmes choir will be performing
 - Board members are encouraged to attend
- Summer 2018 Board Meeting: Date and location 2018 is usually the Tuesday evening before the ReTreat. The meeting will begin at 5:30 PM and the location will be confirmed in the spring
- Open board positions are Senior High, District 4, and District 5. Brandon and Sarah Catt are leaving the board. (Membership and High School)

Vice President, Dennis Morrissey-Committee Chair for the Harold Decker Award

- Laura Lane, former IL-ACDA President was nominated by Brett Goad
 - Brett Goad, John Jost, and a former student submitted letters of support
 - The board voted and selected Laura Lane to receive the Harold Decker Award at the Retreat 2018
Lee will contact Laura and make arrangements
- We need district reps to give two or three possible names to be considered for the Decker Award in the future. Give suggested names to Dennis Morrissey.

District 7 Music in Worship Choir Festival, Sean Newman and Michele Hecht

- Sean and Michele are co-leading this event on October 27, 2018.
 - Jeff Hunt will be the headliner and conductor
 - A wide range of groups and faiths are invited
 - The goal is to provide a festival that is inclusive to all
 - The festival is not limited to District 7
- Sean asked if directors need to be IL-ACDA members if they participate
 - The board decided that membership is required to be involved with any IL-ACDA festival
 - Lee suggested that we can lower the cost of the individual singers so it will help cover the membership cost. We will come out the same financially and the directors will benefit from having the membership

Proposals for seed money

- Two proposals were submitted and approved for \$500 grants
 - Women's Festival chaired by Aubrey Dunham-Prince
 - Music in Worship Choir Festival chaired by Sean Newman and Michele Hecht
- Bob Boyd motioned that we accept the requests for the Treble and the Music in Worship Festivals. Paul Laprade gave a 2nd to the motion and the board approved the requests

ILMEA Reading Session Planning

- Please thank Kidder Music's Laura Swagus for putting together the packets
- Planning about the logistics and staying on schedule was discussed
- Former ReTreat Headliner-Susan Brumfield is directing the elementary honors chorus

Summer Retreat Planning

- Retreat needs a high school choir to work in a master class setting
- Kathy Armstrong, headliner, is from Ottawa and has a graduate degree in dance and drumming. She also teaches African music.
- Diane Marelli and Lee Kesselman will organize the reading sessions for the ReTreat
- The composition contest is for treble or male pieces this year. Encourage composers to submit their compositions for consideration

Andy Jeffrey motioned that the meeting be adjourned and Andy Jensen made a 2nd to the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:54 AM

Minutes submitted by Laura Coster

Winter 2018 Board Reports

College/University Choirs, Andrea Solya

Activities in progress and Future Plans:

- The College and University area is planning on hosting a day for students and with Dr Hilary Apfelstadt, Director of Choral Activities at University of Toronto. She is retiring this coming year and moving back to Columbus OH.
- At the same weekend, we could love to host again a festival for college choirs (just like the one we did two years ago with Joan Szymko) but at this time, we would love to invite Abbie Betinis or Caroline Shaw. She could workshop the participating choirs on her own pieces, while Dr Apfelstadt could work on other repertoire. The event would conclude with a concert. We have had great success two years ago with something like this.
- The best time for this would be in the middle of October. Event would be held on the campus of the U of I at Krannert Center.

Vocal Jazz R&S, Jennifer Seiler

Recent successes & challenges:

- Continuing the ongoing process of keeping an up-to-date list of available VJ combo players throughout the state, using collegiate and semi-professional musicians
 - Created Google Form for VJ combo players - still need to send to website chair
- Reached out to some smaller schools that are hoping to start a VJ program at their school and offered ways to help (colleagues to lean on, repertoire choices, challenge of no combo available, etc.)

Activities in progress:

- Continuing the process of creating a mass calendar with all VJ competitions, festivals, and interest sessions available throughout the state
- Currently in contact with other state VJ R&S chairs to find suggestions on how to better promote and advocate for the VJ side of ACDA
 - Collaborating with the divisional rep on suggestions for my position as well

Future plans & goals:

- Posting the full calendar (mentioned above) on the IL-ACDA website
- Inclusion of a state-wide ACDA Honor Vocal Jazz Ensemble

Choral Composition Contest, Phil Spencer

Activities in progress:

- Since our last Board meeting, the IL-ACDA website was updated to include information about the 2017 contest winner and the 2018 contest
- With the help of Dennis and Lee, a 2018 contest flyer will be included once again in the IL-ACDA Reading Session packet at ILMEA in Peoria.
- 2018 contest information has been sent to eight different US composer organizations to share with their membership.

- Between now and the contest deadline of April 1, judges will be selected to serve on this year's judging committee. After the deadline, all submissions will be forwarded electronically and anonymously to each of the judges for consideration.

Co-Membership Chairs: Brandon Catt and Jess Palmisano

Activities in progress:

- We now have an updated membership roster. There were some glitches where people were not showing up on the list. I have been in the process of trying to make sure we have all the correct people on the list.
- We also had several complimentary memberships handed out in 2017. Make sure for future you have someone in mind in your district that could use a free membership.
- We have stickers for ACDA for people to wear at the IMEC convention. Show your support of ACDA by wearing this sticker.

Future plans & goals:

- We would love to look at the opportunity to do a membership drive aimed at church and community musicians as they tend to be an underutilized market. The thing that has made the most people involved with Illinois ACDA is the constant events and camaraderie amongst our members.
- If we could extend this into some of the other RNS chairs and keep up the Fall Convention in the future, I think this would build on our membership. Please let either of us know if any of you need support in the future.

Karyl Carlson, Urban Initiative, Join Voices

Recent successes & challenges

- It really was terrific, and Glen Thomas was AMAZING!
- Laura did a great job with all the site planning and being so welcoming.
- Nineteen ISU students attend to help in various capacities, and to observe. One of my students did an independent study to help organize the festival. We're making some progress through this event, in particular, to open the awareness of the need for skilled and committed urban educators. Some of these students are very passionate about teaching in CPS, or somewhere similar.

Activities in progress

- Grace is leading a panel discussion at the upcoming Regional Conference, and I will be moderating. Our work continues! Thanks for all your support.

Music in Worship, Michele Hecht

Recent successes & challenges

- The Church/Community Honor Choir at the fall conference was a very successful
- 74 singers from 6 churches and 6 community choirs
- We received high marks from the 32 responses to our participant survey
- Many thanks to Jeff Hunt, Steve Szalaj and Brett Goad, who were on the planning team with me

Activities in progress

Future plans & goals

- Sean Newman and I met in November to draft a proposal for a Music in Worship event for District 7, to take place in October.
- Sean submitted the proposal to Lee prior to the January meeting.

Community Choruses-Eric Esparza

Future plans & goals:

- Research:
 - Comprehensive list of IL community choruses
 - Contact leaders and inquire what support/programs may be of use at the community chorus level
- Evaluate usefulness of community chorus focused initiatives such as:
 - Shared visits from master teachers
 - sheet music borrowing
 - equipment sharing
 - cross-advertising in print programs/online
 - community outreach to students and/or seniors
 - training circuit for inclusivity, leadership/board development

District 6 Rep, Andy Jensen

Recent successes & challenges

- Just switched to District 6 from Youth & Student Activities

Activities in progress

- None

Future plans & goals

- I would like to develop an IL-ACDA sponsored professional development/musical experience for District 6 choral conductors (K-12 teachers, church musicians, community choir directors, etc.) designed to energize and encourage. Maybe a director's chorus day with an active IL-ACDA member volunteering as guest conductor. It doesn't have to cost a lot of money, but my vision is to offer something totally free (no registration fee). Not many choral professionals in District 6 participate in ACDA, so maybe offering services first will motivate people to join and begin participating in state, regional and national events. I will work to have a proposal by the June 2018 meeting.
 - This is what I submitted at the Fall 2017 board meeting...I'm submitting it again because I didn't make any progress. Hopefully in the next 6 months I can get my act together!

District 8 Rep - Drayton Eggleston

Recent successes & challenges:

- Challenge: Obtaining record of schools in District 8 with Director's information.

Activities in progress:

- Using information provided by membership team to increase number of participants in ACDA within District 8.

Future plans & goals:

- Directly promote more involvement for District 8 teachers towards ACDA functions
 - Functions Include:
 - Retreat
 - Conferences
 - National/ Regional
 - Fall Conventions
- Continue to grow numbers of participating choir directors through personal connections and involvement in ACDA

Ethnic and Multicultural, Darius Polikaitis

Recent successes & challenges:

- Ethnic and Multicultural reading session at the IL-ACDA Fall Convention. Keith Hampton (previous Ethnic and Multicultural chair) and I presented three pieces each. Thanks to Keith for selecting pieces. Thanks to Sean Newman for accompanying.

Activities in progress:

- Establishing contacts with the directors of ethnic choirs in Illinois, with the goals of a) encouraging membership in ACDA and b) possibly organizing an event (festival?) gathering ethnic choirs from throughout Illinois. Progress is thus far slow.

Future plans & goals:

- Establish contacts with Ethnic and Multicultural R&R Chairs at the Division and National level.
- "Podium" article.

Men's R and S/ Andy Jeffrey

Activities in progress:

- Working on planning a men's festival for spring (hopefully or next fall)