

**IL-ACDA Board Reports**  
**January 25, 2019**  
**12:45 PM at ILMEC-Scottish Rite Cathedral**

**Website, Hawkins**

Recent successes & challenges:

- Continuous website updates and maintenance

Activities in progress:

- Continuous website updates and maintenance

Future plans & goals:

- Website redesign using a professional web designer

**Collegiate/University/Youth Research and Repertoire Chair, Paul Laprade**

Recent successes & challenges:

- Success in planning a multi-level IL-ACDA Gospel Fest for May 17-18 2019. I obtained a well-regarded/famous clinician and conductor of Gospel music (Dr. Donald Dumpson), a venue for the event, and a core of participatory choirs even before beginning to promote the event
- IL-ACDA Gospel Fest initiatives have been challenging, particularly since these involved negotiating 'competing' choirs and factions within a politically/racially divided city. The proposed date needed to be changed twice to accommodate the requests and needs of the core participants. Other details have taken over three months of persistent contacts and negotiations to organize
- Have not been able to receive any information or responses from IL-ACDA's College/University Chair

Activities in progress

- Planning for 2019 Summer ReTreat Collegiate Reading Session
- Implementing and organizing promotion materials for the IL ACDA GospelFest so that the invitation to participate moves beyond the 'core' needed to make this activity successful
- Obtaining contact information for potential membership of non-ACDA choral conductors in the college/university area

Future plans & goals

- Assemble a team of collegiate conductors from the southern part of the state to see if there is enough interest to establish an IL-ACDA sponsored event for two- and four-year colleges in the southern part of Illinois
- I need to engage the 'youth' area of my position more strongly

## **Treble Choir (Female) Repertoire and Resource Chair, Aubrey Prince**

### Recent successes & challenges:

- Upcoming 6th Annual Sing and Share Treble Ensemble Festival Thursday, January 31, 2019 at College of DuPage, McAninch Arts Center
- Four clinicians are Mary Hopper - Wheaton College and director of Wheaton College Women's Chorale, Lisa Fredenburgh - Aurora University, Kirsten Hedegaard - Loyola University Chicago, and Julia Davids - North Park University
- Featured Collegiate Ensemble - Wheaton College Women's Chorale

### Activities in progress:

- 2019 Sing and Share Festival

### Future plans & goals:

- 2020 (well that was weird to type!) 7th annual Sing and Share Treble Ensemble Festival - Tentative Date Thursday, January 30, 2020 (Thursday following IMEC)
- Illinois Commission/Consortium Project

## **Choral Composition Contest: Philip Spencer, Chair**

### Recent successes & challenges:

- Since our last Board meeting, the IL-ACDA website was updated to include information about the 2018 contest winner and the 2019 contest. Thank you, Jason!

### Activities in progress:

- I have designed and updated a new 2019 contest flyer, which, with the generous help of Dennis Morrissey, was printed and delivered to Kidder to be included once again in the IL-ACDA Reading Session packet at ILMEA in Peoria
- 2019 contest information has been sent to ChoralNet and to eight different US composer organizations to share with their membership

### Future plans & goals:

- 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

## **College/University Choirs, Andrea Solya**

### Future plans & goals:

- Planning to create a day long workshop around the visit of *Tenebrae* in November 2019
- We could possibly have college choirs attending with their directors and could create something useful for the directors as well

- Workshop would be likely on a weekday, in Krannert at the University of Illinois with a concert at the end
- Once Krannert confirms this engagement, we will have more information to share

### **High School: Larry Fisher, Chair**

#### Recent successes & challenges:

- Failure to put together an event for this school year
- Working on creating a new type of event for high school choirs that can be implemented in different districts

#### Activities in progress:

- Hoping to create an event for high school choirs at the Fall Convention

#### Future plans & goals:

- Want to create a combined high school event to perform larger works

### **Community Choruses, Eric Esparza**

#### Recent successes & challenges:

- Successful Holiday 2018 cross-promotion with participating ensembles

#### Activities in progress:

- Sharing IL state resources with Artistic Directors
- Evaluate effectiveness of cross-promotion initiative

#### Future plans & goals:

- Continue cumulative list of IL community choruses of all sizes
- Contact downstate ensembles to inquire of ways to support them
- Investigate pairing specific resources with ensembles with focus-based missions
- Continue to evaluate usefulness of initiatives such as:
  - Circuit Venue performances
  - North-South-East-West Performances
  - Concert sharing
  - Shared visits of Master Teachers
  - Sheet Music Borrowing
  - equipment sharing
  - community outreach
  - diversity & inclusivity training

## **Ethnic and Multicultural, Darius Polikaitis**

### Recent successes & challenges:

- Unfortunately, nothing of substance to report in the way of successes. Will try to improve that for the next board meeting
- Challenge: The process of gathering info re: ethnic choirs and their directors in Illinois has regrettably been very slow for two reasons: a) my own busy schedule that has limited the time I can spend on this project, and b) little response from choirs and directors that I have tried to contact via email and voice mail

### Activities in progress:

- Creating a list of ethnic choirs in Illinois, along with their directors and contact information (phone numbers, email addresses, web sites)
- Attempting to contact ethnic choir directors (or choir administrators) to discuss membership in ACDA and the possibility of organizing an event gathering ethnic choirs from throughout Illinois
- Assembling list of subject experts in choral music from various cultures for ultimate posting on IL-ACDA web site

### Future plans & goals:

- Podium article

## **Two-Year Colleges, Jeffrey DeLay**

### Recent successes & challenges:

- Contact list for choral directors at many 2-year colleges has been updated, and personal contact established with some 2-year college conductors
- Failure to garner much (if any) increased interest in the upcoming Two-Year College Choral Festival

### Activities in progress:

- Planning for April 6 Two-Year College Choral Festival – Five directors have registered their choirs (most of these five are bringing multiple choirs)

### Future plans & goals:

- Utilize updated contact list to reach out to two-year college directors in anticipation of Summer ReTreat and other IL-ACDA events
- Seek new ideas for annual festival (Invite a clinician? Utilize different format?)

## **Bass Choir (Men's) R &R, Andy Jeffrey**

### Recent successes & challenges:

- Have spoken with Jason Hawkins regarding Western Illinois hosting a men's festival and looking to explore that option or other similar options like that
- calendar and lack of continuity in men's choir structures seems to be the biggest challenges

### Activities in progress:

- Still working to try to find a good format and time for a men's choir festival

### Future plans & goals:

- Hoping to get this festival going and would love input from other who might have interest in making this happen

## **Jess Palmisano, Membership Chair**

### Recent successes & challenges:

The ACDA emails have been going very well! I am super happy with the way the program works

### Activities in progress:

Stickers for ILMEA

Working on a more efficient way to get the word out on membership drive. A lot of people were nominated for free memberships but did not fill out the form

### Future plans & goals:

I would like to host an SATB festival through ACDA but I am not sure whether it is in my realm as membership chair

I would like a more concrete way of getting new members. Ideas are welcomed

## **District 2 Representative, Jen Reece**

### Recent successes & challenges:

- Successfully encouraged three local directors to renew their ACDA membership via the free year incentive discussed at the October meeting
- Invited the directors from the Mid-Illini Conference to consider attending the Treble Ensemble Sing & Share; 2 of our 8 choirs participate. There was discussion on the timing/weather/distance to Glen Ellyn
- Spoke with several directors during ILMEA District #2 music festival about joining us at ILMEA for the ACDA Reception & Reading Session and the upcoming Summer Retreat

#### Activities in progress:

- Supporting the ACDA Treble Ensemble Sing & Share at College of DuPage in February; our third year!

#### Future plans & goals:

- Would like to discuss adding a “downstate” Treble Ensemble Share & Sing site, possibly with Ben Luginbuhl’s assistance
- Find an avenue to encourage District #2, #3, & #4 directors to take advantage of the PD opportunities during the ACDA Summer Retreat; it’s in our backyard
- Want to take in more information on the ACDA National Chorus and the Show Choir
- Festival so I can nominate my own students and encourage other directors to participate

### **District 3 Representative, Ben Luginbuhl**

#### Recent successes & challenges:

- Made announcement of ACDA activities at our ILMEA District Festival
- I am having two of my choirs attend the new ILMEA Large Ensemble Performance / Clinic at EIU on March 8. They’ve told me that only one other school has submitted to perform (the band slots are nearly full) and they may have to cancel it. Would it be appropriate for me to hype this with the District 5 rep (EIU is in D5) as a good activity, even though not sponsored by ACDA? Just don’t want to be inappropriate since it’s not an ACDA function

#### Activities in progress:

- Continuing to advertise ACDA events. Will especially focus on Retreat and October Conference

#### Future plans & goals:

- Have always wanted to do a regional exchange concert with Districts 2-3-4-5 but just don’t know how to get off the ground. The ILMEA event I talked about above could be a good starting point. If it doesn’t catch on for choirs, maybe ACDA can take over and sponsor?

### **District 5 Representative, Janet McCumber**

#### Recent successes & challenges:

- Making contact with directors is a real challenge!

#### Activities in progress:

- Meeting with Frank Gallo, choral director at Parkland College in Champaign, to brainstorm ideas for reaching out to and connecting with area directors
- I have joined the group of presenters in ILMEA to do PD sessions, with my emphasis being schools in districts 3, 5 and 6

## **District 7 Representative, Sean Newman**

### Recent successes & challenges:

- The Music in Worship Choir Festival in October 2018 was a HUGE success. We had 60+ singers from 8 different churches involved. Many thanks to Michele Hecht (co-chair), Jeff Hunt (guest conductor), Ann Tucker & Barbra Thorsen of First Congregational Church of Crystal Lake (host church director and organist) and Michael Soto (guest accompanist). There is significant interest from the participating directors in doing the festival again next year; some have even volunteered to host it
- *Constant Contact* was a great way to advertise the Music in Worship Choir Festival

### Activities in progress:

- None

### Future plans & goals:

- Recruit potential ACDA members through a few upcoming presentations for the ILMEA Clinicians Network
- See if there may be any potential hosts for a Music in Worship Choir Festival next year?

## **District 9 Representative, Bryan Kunstman**

### Recent successes & challenges:

- I am still struggling to maintain an up-to-date e-mail list to communicate effectively with directors. As a result, I have had to basically refrain from sending out informational and reminder e-mails
- If we can figure out a way to sort the membership list once again by zip codes (i.e. districts), I can resume the practice of reaching out directly to directors in our area

### Activities in progress:

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### Future plans & goals:

- I hope to find a better way to communicate with our members in our district. It would be great to have a way to gather information about needs and ideas from our members at a local level