**VCDA District Representative Meeting**

**September 10, 2011**

**Blue Ridge Community College**

All Districts were represented except for Districts 2, 4 and 7.

I. Honors Choir

A. Lisa reminded everyone about the Honors Choir online registration deadline of Sept. 14 at 4:00. The postmark deadline for registration fees and paperwork is Sept. 16. Jeremy Craft suggested that directors print their verification form after registering online and bring this with you to the auditions.

B. Robert Stamback Award – The format has changed and the deadline is now after the audition results are posted so only students who are actually accepted complete the applications. It is not just a needs-based scholarship so all should apply.

II. VMEA 2011 Conference

A. Lisa passed around a room chair sign-up sheet for Conference and explained room chair duties. District Reps will act as the mover/shaker team during all sessions if things need doing.

B. Lynne Babcock discussed that literature needing to be graded for inclusion in the manual needs to get to her by 4:00 on the Thursday of conference.

C. Schedule:

**Thursday, Nov. 17** 1:30 MS Reading Session (Charlotte McKee, clinician)

2:45 Christiansburg HS (Mandi Townley, director)

4:00 HS Reading Session (Ernest Johnson, clinician)

**Friday, Nov. 18** 11:45 Choral Rep. for 10 or 100 Men (Philip Keirstead, clinician)

1:00 Vocal Health-My Responsibility? (Axel Theimer, clinician)

2:15 Musings from the VCDA Sight-Reading Committee

3:30 South Lakes HS Bella Voce (Rita Gigliotti, director)

**Saturday, Nov. 19** 9:15 Cross Training the Choral Voice (Kyle Weary, clinician)

10:30 Safety, Identity, Transmission & Enculturation: The Cultures We

Create in the Choral Room (Dr. Jo-anne Vander Vat Chromy, clinician)

III. All-Virginia Chorus auditions

A. All-Virginia auditions have a new song: “Blow, blow thou winter wind.” Doray Walker asked for clarification on whether Soprano 1’s in District Choir have to audition as Soprano 1’s for All-Virginia. Answer: There is nothing in the VCDA Manual that addresses this. They must audition for the voice part for which they sign up for for All-VA auditions – no switching parts once they register. Perhaps someone should make a motion at conference about this, so that we can have uniformity around the state?? (In our district, we have decided that they can switch from a I to a II between District Chorus and All-VA auditions…as long as they register as such, but not between Soprano and Alto, or Tenor and Bass.)

B. Masterworks Press will send the All-Virginia Sight-Reading to Lisa, who will send it to District Reps, who will send it to their auditions chair. Masterworks does this for free but they are getting frustrated that districts are also requesting free sight-reading but that each district has subtle differences in their requirements and that if it continues they will have to charge in the future.

C. Lisa will have the All-Virginia music at Conference. District Reps are responsible for signing off that they received packets. If you can’t be there, designate a representative to pick them up for you.

D. Lisa requested that All-Virginia commitment forms come to her complete and correct! It was noted that all who audition complete the commitment form even though only 24 are chosen/needed and that it is a waste of paper. Lisa noted that because of the quick turn-around from auditions to event, having everyone complete the forms is necessary.

E. There was discussion about the wording of the expectations and consequences section of the commitment form. Changes will be made and forwarded to District Reps.

1. Rule #7 should read “The use of cell phones and all other electronic devices will be prohibited during rehearsals and school hours.” This rule should be moved under the Chorus Rehearsal Expectations section.

2. Discussion was had about whether to give warnings for certain rules or designate certain rules as so severe that if broken the student is instantly dismissed.

IV. All-Virginia Chorus

**All-Virginia Chorus 2012 – April 26- 28, 2012**

E.C. Glass High School, Lynchburg (Nancy Volk-Stalcup, host)

Conductors are SATB: Dr. Craig Arnold (Manhattan Concert Productions)

SSAA: Dr. Julie Yu (Kansas State University)

**All-Virginia Chorus 2013 – April 25- 27, 2013**

Conductors are SATB: Jo-Michael Scheibe (University of Southern California)

SSAA: Edith Copley (Northern Arizona University)

**All-Virginia Chorus 2014**

Conductors are SATB: Sandra Snow (University of Michigan)

SSAA: Iris Levine (California State Polytechnic University, Pomona)

Philip discussed the All-Virginia Middle School Honor Choir, explaining that the event is sponsored by the Virginia chapter of the American Choral Directors Association and asked District Reps to disseminate information, specifically the website, [www.vaacda.org](http://www.vaacda.org). Dr. Jeff Benson from San Jose State University will conduct.

V. Assessment Sight-Reading

A. Jeremy Craft submitted his proposal on behalf of the Sight-Reading committee.

B. District Reps are to lead discussion on the proposal, take copious notes, and send those to Jeremy at [jcraft@bedford.k12.va.us](mailto:jcraft@bedford.k12.va.us) by October 8.

C. Jeremy and the committee will combine notes from all districts and redraft the proposal.

D. There will be an entire session dedicated to answering questions about the proposal at VMEA.

E. Immediately following this session, the general membership will vote on the proposal.

VI. General Info

A. Read the VCDA manual to ensure consistency across Virginia in all events. Lisa recommended printing the different sections and giving those to the appropriate event chairs to make sure they are following procedure.

B. Lisa will send Master District Roster out to Reps. Update with changes/additions and send back by October 1.

C. There is a new accompanist contract (like the conductor contract) on the VCDA website.

D. We need to encourage colleagues to submit performing groups and interest sessions. Lisa asked reps to instruct judges at assessment to identify those who would be great candidates for a VMEA concert.

E. There is a Music Educator of the Year Award and also a Past-President Scholarship Award posted in the awards section of the website. The latter is a 4-year scholarship for seniors going on to major in music.

F. The new website will host links of individual district websites. Send links to Lisa.

G. There are new medals for Assessment that replace the word “Festival.”