

Secondary Sessions

Brothers Sing On! Engage, Attract, and Empower Young Male Singers

Dr. Jonathan Palant – The University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, Texas
Monday, 10:00am – Kittyhawk Ballroom

How best to actively and effectively recruit male singers has long been a relevant discussion. In this session, discover, compare, and share successful recruiting strategies used by men's choirs of all types, including proven methods for secondary school singers, university glee clubs, collegiate a cappella ensembles, and barbershop choruses. Participants will also be presented with repertoire suitable for recruiting male singers.

Conducting Technique: A Refresher (Masterclass)

Dr. Stephen Caldwell –University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas
Monday, 11:00a.m. (Rotation 1A) – Kittyhawk Ballroom

This session will revisit the techniques learned in our undergraduate studies. Participants will prepare 8 measures of music (sent electronically to everyone registered for the conference), and we'll conduct together the entire session, revisiting the techniques that you might have "forgotten!" Additionally, we'll discuss how you can progress your technique through daily conducting puzzles.

I Have a Job...Now What (Panel Discussion)

Mark Langley, Moderator – Lakeside High School, Hot Springs, Arkansas
Monday, 11:00a.m.(Rotation 1B) – Enterprise A, B

A panel discussion aimed at college students and teachers in their first few years of teaching. We will visit some of the unexpected challenges experienced in teaching and discuss various ways we found success. Veteran teachers are encouraged to attend and provide their insight.

Culturally Responsive Pedagogy in the Choral Classroom (Roundtable Discussion)

Dr. Jeffrey Murdock –University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas
Monday, 11:00a.m. (Rotation 1C) – Linberg A, B, C

Practical applications for creating healthy, well-rounded experiences in culturally and racially diverse settings.

The Non-Negotiables of Creating Rehearsal Harmony

Dr. Jonathan Palant – The University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, Texas
Monday, 3:00pm – Kittyhawk Ballroom

It takes more than musical proficiency and informed vocal technique to be a solid member of the choir. The best choral singers are able to trust their conductors, take musical risks on and off the stage, and without exception, respect those with whom they sing. This session explores methods for establishing such trust and respect, thus creating a safe rehearsal space for all performers.

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LGTBQ Issues in the Choral Classroom (Roundtable Discussion)

Dr. Jonathan Palant – The University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, Texas
Monday, 4:30pm (Rotation 2C) – Linberg A, B, C

What are the challenges for us as conductor-teachers in addressing (or not addressing) LGBTQ issues in the classroom? Bring your own experiences, concerns, and an open mind.

Creating Harmony in Unexpected Places

Dr. Jonathan Palant – The University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, Texas
Tuesday, 9:30am – Kittyhawk Ballroom

As conductor-teachers, we are forever in pursuit of new and unique compositions for our ensembles to perform. Parameters such as text, length, accompaniment, difficulty, and range usually dictate what piece we purchase and what we set aside. It is infrequent, however, that we choose repertoire based on what music our choir *needs* to sing – emotionally, spiritually, and collectively. The Dallas Street Choir, a musical outlet for those experiencing homelessness and severe disadvantage, has received attention for its success using choral music to create a safe and affirming community for an often-marginalized segment of society. In this session, we will explore the structure of the Dallas Street Choir and how this model can be used in school, worship, and other choral settings. Appropriate repertoire will be discussed, as will promotion, recruiting, expectations of singers, and desirable and effective leadership techniques.

Sounds of Praise: Unpacking the Myths of Gospel Music and Spirituals

Edmond Hampton – Hall High School, Little Rock, Arkansas
Tuesday, 2:30pm – Kittyhawk Ballroom

A session to point out genre identifiers that include performing misnomers and historical necessities to achieve performance authenticities.

Using Google in the Choral Classroom

Mark Langley – Lakeside High School, Hot Springs, Arkansas
Wednesday, 9:30am – Kittyhawk Ballroom

Practical and meaningful ways to use Google Software to organize, assess, and enhance learning in the choral classroom.

Elementary Sessions

**Bring a recorder to all sessions...just in case!
(also a guitar & ukulele, if you have one)**

Elementary Music Boot Camp – Phase 1

Gayle Clutts and Sami Sue Welch – Fort Smith Public School, Fort Smith, Arkansas
Tuesday, 2:30pm – Linberg A, B, C

Featuring songs about animals, an interactive recorder game, and a bit o' blues!

Elementary Music Boot Camp – Phase 2

Gayle Clutts and Sami Sue Welch – Fort Smith Public School, Fort Smith, Arkansas
Wednesday, 8:30am – Linberg A, B, C

Revisits some classic folk tunes, looks at some elementary music iPad apps, and more! Also takes a deeper look into recorder curriculum AND the **ukulele** is making a comeback – **bring one if you can!**

Elementary Music Boot Camp – Phase 3

Gayle Clutts and Sami Sue Welch – Fort Smith Public School, Fort Smith, Arkansas
Wednesday, 9:30am – Linberg A, B, C

Put some of that Orff training to good use, provide a chance to use pool noodles, and give dig your guitar out of the closet and make some joyful noises!
Bring a guitar if you have one.

Elementary Music Boot Camp – Phase 4

Gayle Clutts and Sami Sue Welch – Fort Smith Public School, Fort Smith, Arkansas
Wednesday, 1:30pm – Linberg A, B, C

Hands-on make & take ideas for setting up centers in your classroom. Come learn how to organize a musical 3 ring circus.