



Dear Colleagues,

The Ohio Choral Directors Association is pleased to announce the twelfth annual OCDA Children's Honor Choir, to be held at Otterbein University during the OCDA Professional Conference on June 20-22, 2016. Music teachers and community children's chorus directors who are members of OCDA and/or OMEA are invited to recommend their best treble singers who have just completed grades 4-8.



OCDA is proud to announce our 2016 guest conductor, Fred Meads, from The American Boychoir School in Princeton, NJ. Mr. Meads is the Director of Vocal Studies, and Training Choir Conductor at the Boychoir School. Previously, he served as Artistic Director of the Fort Wayne Children's Choir from 1999-2009. Mr. Meads has directed honor choirs in several states and presented workshops for the Indiana Music Educators Association, American Choral Directors Association and Organization of American Kodály Educators National Conference in Dallas. Last spring, he traveled to Hong Kong to present workshop sessions for public school teachers and the YIP Children's Choir. He serves as the boy choir representative for New Jersey-ACDA and also serves as the Children's Choir Director at Marble Collegiate Church in New York City and accompanist for the Princeton Girl Choir.

The Honor Choir committee is pleased to share some updates to this wonderful program. We appreciate the feedback of the valuable teachers and parents who have made the Honor Choir part of their singer's music education. Complete details can be found on the second page of this letter.

Changes at a Glance:

Chaperone Fee: All singer registrations will be increased by \$25 to cover the cost for all of our chaperones (1:4 ratio is still required). In the event your school/organization would like to pay for the chaperones separately, singers will need to enter the coupon code: CHAP16 at the time of registration (COMCHAP16 for commuting singers).

Size of Choir: Due to the limited space on our performance stage (Otterbein Theatre in the Round), we have had to limit the number of singers to 120. Each teacher may recommend 10 singers, but they will need to be rated 1-10 to help select the students most ready for this kind of advanced experience.

Deadlines: Teacher nominations are due by **March 1, 2016**. Singer registrations are due by **April 15, 2016**.

Nomination procedure

Online nominations will be accepted until March 1, 2016. You may nominate up to 10 singers using the online nomination form at: www.ohiocda.org/interests/childrenschoir. Please make sure you have a valid phone number and current parent email address for each singer you nominate. A helpful parent letter is available for download on the website.

Please rank your singer in the order in which you want them to be considered. This will help us select the singers from each school that will be most ready for this intensive experience.

After your nominations have been submitted, parents will receive a congratulations email with the link to register their child. If you have questions at any time, please email ocdachc@gmail.com.

Chaperones

Each recommending teacher is responsible for securing the appropriate number of chaperones to accompany and supervise his/her students. The ratio of students to chaperones must not exceed 4:1. There is a place to indicate if a parent is willing to chaperone on the online nomination form. Additional chaperones may register for a fee of \$100 for those staying on campus and \$50 for those who are commuting.

Deadlines

Nominations will be accepted: February 1, 2016 - March 1, 2016.

All singer registrations must be complete by April 15, 2016.

Detailed information will be sent via email directly to parents and teachers after April 30, 2015.

Music preparation

Participating students will begin preparations for the choir in two **required** satellite rehearsals held around the state. Dates and locations of satellite rehearsals will be published on the OCDA website as soon as they are available. Please email ocdachc@gmail.com if you have any questions or concerns about the satellite rehearsals.

Without the support from the music teachers and children's chorus directors from Ohio, OCDA would not be able to offer opportunities such as this to our young singers. Please support this event by recommending your most outstanding singers, and pass this invitation along to colleagues and friends!

Thank you for your support of choral music in the state of Ohio and for OCDA!

Sincerely,

OCDA Children's Honor Choir Team

Jennifer Call – OCDA Children's Honor Choir Chair, Artistic Director, Oberlin Choristers

Lisa Alleman – Artistic Director, Children's Choir of Northwest Ohio

Jeremy David – OCDA Children's Choir Repertoire and Standards Chair, Music Teacher

Dr. Sandra Mathias – Artistic Director Emerita, Columbus Children's Choir

Rebecca Parsons – Music Teacher

Keith Tankersley – Music Teacher, Delaware City Schools

Lisa Van Scyoc – Conductor, Oberlin Choristers