



# Tempo!

*Tempo!* is published by the Michigan School Vocal Music Association to provide programming and activity information to its members monthly.

MARCH 2023

## Upcoming Events and Deadlines

March 17 - 18 | State S&E Festival East

March 24 - 25 | State S&E Festival West

March 17 | State Choral Festival Application Deadline

April 1 | 2023 Outstanding Choir Performance Applications Due

April 14 | State S&E and State Choral Festivals UP

April 14 - 15 | State S&E Festival Central

April 14 - 15 | State S&E Festival South

**Save the Date! Summer Conference**



The development of our Summer Conference schedule is well underway. Please consider presenting a session and sharing your expertise.

Here is the presenter [Google Form](#) to complete by Friday March 31.

Some suggested topics are:

- Choral Literature/Reading Session
- Vocal/Choral Pedagogy
- Rehearsal Techniques
- Warm-ups
- Music Literacy/Sight Reading
- Choral Program Growth/Recruitment
- Diversity/Equity/Inclusion

If you have other ideas related to vocal music instruction, please submit.

Thank you so much for considering this request!

If you have questions, contact Eric Cadena at [ericcadena@msvma.org](mailto:ericcadena@msvma.org).

**Submitted by Eric Cadena, Director of All-State Festival and Summer Conference**

## MSVMA Partner Program

I am thrilled to announce the creation of the MSVMA Partner Program! The purpose of the MSVMA Partner Program is to connect and support not only ALL teachers, but especially those new to the field or to their role. In a collaborative effort, we utilize the expertise of seasoned teachers who have a desire to come alongside an assigned mentee. We are here to connect both mentees and mentors alike. The MSVMA Partner Program is designed to match participants based on grade level, specialty, and/or specific needs. Participants will be asked to fill out a comprehensive survey to determine the best partnership. Teachers of all levels and years of experience are encouraged to participate.

Watch this short video to find out more: <https://youtu.be/ij6yq8PXvw0>. If you are interested in helping create the framework for this program, please contact Sarah Stockton at [sarahstockton@msvma.org](mailto:sarahstockton@msvma.org). Sign-up for the 2023-2024 school year will begin in May.

Look for more information soon!

**Submitted by Sarah Stockton, President-Elect**



## All-State Honors Choir



**Dr. Cara Tasher, The University of North Florida  
High School All-State Conductor**

Dr. Cara Tasher has served as Director of Choral Studies at the University of North Florida since 2006 relishing the opportunity to provide relevant life and professional experiences for her students in Jacksonville, and around the world. Global and cultural competency is a focal point of her teaching. Proficient in several languages, Tasher's engagements as singer, conductor, and adjudicator, have brought her to over 20 countries for concerts, competitions, festivals, and workshops, with regular engagements as guest conductor for Mexico's Coro de Teatro de Bellas Artes. Ensembles under her direction have toured to the Baltic States, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Italy, Portugal, Slovenia and South Africa. Prior to UNF,

Tasher has been professionally involved with the Atlanta Symphony Chorus, Chicago Symphony Chorus, Conspirare, Trinity Choir-Wall Street, Xavier University, and the Young People's Chorus of New York City.

Her training took place at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, University of Texas at Austin, Paris IV-La Sorbonne, and Northwestern University. Dr. Tasher is highly active as a clinician, within the American Choral Directors Association, International Federation of Choral

Music, and the National Collegiate Choral Organization in various leadership capacities. At the university, Tasher conducts two ensembles, teaches the graduate conducting curriculum, and oversees the choral program and its leadership team, receiving awards for outstanding teaching and international leadership, and grants to support her Jacksonville SINGS! initiatives. Cara presented at the World Symposium of Choral Music (WSCM) in Seoul, Korea, on “The Conductor as Voice Teacher” and recently served as a clinician in the Europa Cantat Leading Voices Workshop in July 2022 in Utrecht, Netherlands. She is grateful for the opportunity to work with the talented singers in Michigan where music education is highly valued.



**Todd Schreiber, Whiteford High School  
All-State Accompanist**

Todd Schreiber, originally from Ohio City, OH, resides in Lambertville, MI. He holds a bachelor’s degree in music education from Bowling Green State University and a master’s degree from VanderCook College in Chicago and is currently in his 34 year as K-12 vocal music instructor and theatre director for Whiteford Schools in Ottawa Lake, MI. Todd has served the Michigan School Vocal Music Association as District 12 Co-Manager for the past 20 years and has often been an accompanist for workshops, conferences and honors choirs in the state. His choirs, ensembles and private voice students consistently participate in MSVMA district and state

level events, including the Michigan Youth Arts Festival. He is also a member of the Canterbury Singers USA with which he has sung several choral residencies at cathedrals in England. His book, Olympic Games for the Music Classroom, was published in 2008 by Shawnee Press. In 2010, Todd directed the 7-8-9 SSA State Honors Choir and in 2017 conducted the 7-8-9 TTB State Honors Choir. He was extremely honored to be named the MSVMA Teacher of the Year in 2013 and in 2015 he earned The Outstanding Alumni Award from his high school Alma Mater.

**Choral Student Leadership Conference**

**Choral Student Leadership Conference**

**EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21**

**9 AM - 4:30 PM**

*Headliner -*

**COTY RAVEN MORRIS**  
Portland State University

**2024 Michigan Music Conference  
Call for Interest Sessions**

Planning for the 2024 Michigan Music Conference is underway. **Pearl Shangkuan** from Calvin University will be the MSVMA headliner. Dr. Shangkuan is busy as a conductor and clinician in the United States and internationally. She is the newly elected national President

Elect of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA). We are excited to finally have Dr. Shangkuan be our headliner next January.

MMC is a wonderful professional development opportunity for music educators because we are able to connect and learn from each other. The MSVMA Planning Committee invites all members to consider sharing their teaching strategies and insights that promote student learning and engagement through the artistry of choral music. Presenters are welcome to share via the traditional lecture format or via a creative manner - maybe bring your students to assist in your presentation.

Thanks for considering sharing your wealth of knowledge with those who attend MMC 2024. Deadline for interest sessions is Friday, April 28.

**Submitted by Wendee Wolf-Schlarf**

2024 MMC Submissions

## Announcements

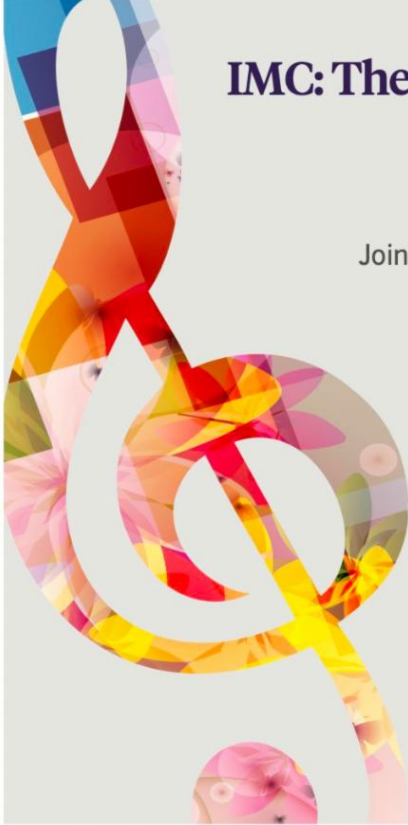
**You are invited to the IMC National Seminar at Albion College, March 17-18.**

5 concert sessions. 13 TTBB choirs from 4 states and Canada, with the headliner group Cantus performing Friday, March 17.

All concert sessions free and open to the public. Bring your students!

Register to attend interest and reading sessions. Full information at [www.imc2023.us](http://www.imc2023.us)

**Submitted by Clayton Parr**





**IMC: The Tenor-Bass Choral Consortium**  
NATIONAL SEMINAR

Join us for a Men's Singing Spectacular at Albion College  
**March 17-18, 2023.** Tenor-bass choruses from all over the country will be participating as we share in the music and camaraderie that are the hallmarks of male choral singing.

Our Friday evening concert will be the renowned professional male ensemble Cantus, appearing as part of the David L. Strickler Endowed concert series. With 15 collegiate, high school, and community-based tenor-bass choirs from several different states and Canada giving performances, the IMC National Seminar is an event you won't want to miss! You will experience men's choruses in performance; reading and interest sessions tailored to your needs; and colleagues from all over the country who are anxious to share their stories and compare notes. All events will take place at the historic Goodrich Chapel at Albion College and the adjacent First United Methodist Church, in Albion, Michigan.

Should you have questions, feel free to email Dr. Clayton Parr at [cparr@albion.edu](mailto:cparr@albion.edu).

Register today by scanning the QR code or go to [imc2023.us](http://imc2023.us)



**Albion College**  
Department of Music

THE DAVID L. STRICKLER ENDOWED CONCERT SERIES PRESENTS

# Cantus Vocal Ensemble

PART OF THE IMC NATIONAL SEMINAR

Friday, March 17, 2023 | 7:30 p.m. | Goodrich Chapel



## Solo Vocal Jazz Competition sponsored by the Michigan Jazz Festival

The Michigan Jazz Festival wants to feature an up-and-coming male or female talented jazz vocalist, ages 14+ to adult at our 2023 festival on Sunday, July 16 at Schoolcraft College. We want to give you the opportunity to sing three songs with a professional jazz trio, opening for a headlining act.

We need you to submit two YouTube links singing two diverse Standards from the Great American Songbook demonstrating your ability to sing. The recordings do not need to be of professional quality but we ask that you please not use pitch correction or editing software. Songs can be a cappella, with a backing track, or with a live group.

There is no entrance fee.

Five Finalists will be chosen to perform in a live contest at Aretha's Jazz Cafe (downtown Detroit) on Sunday, May 21 at 7 p.m.

Here is the link with more information and the online application form:  
<https://michiganjazzfestival.org/vocal-competition/>

Submitted by April Tini

**Scholarship Competitions**



Application deadline: March 17, 2023  
Registration \$10 | Apply ONLINE  
KalamazooBachFestival.org

# 2023 VIRTUAL HIGH SCHOOL VOCAL COMPETITION



Open to ALL Michigan High School &  
Home School students grades 9-12

Classical | Opera | Art Song

Musical Theater | Jazz | American Songbook

Contemporary | Pop | Folk | Hip Hop

THREE Categories  
THREE \$500 Awards!

Application/Song Submission  
Deadline is **MARCH 17!**

## Madrigal Chorale High School Scholarship Competition

The Madrigal Chorale is pleased to announce its 28th Annual Vocal Scholarship Competition. This unique opportunity allows for aspiring and talented young vocalists to earn scholarship money toward their educational studies.

Eligible students must submit a vocal recording of their selected pieces for judging. Finalists chosen will be invited to participate in Madrigal Chorale's Spring Concert which will take place May 20, 2023 at Saint Paul's United Methodist Church in Rochester, Michigan. There will be one (1) \$1,000 Grand Prize Award, one (1) \$750 Award and one (1) \$500 Award presented at this competition.

Interested students should submit a video recording by the deadline listed below.

Submissions must include:

- A video submission of two solo selections
- Scanned copies of the music for adjudication purposes
- A completed registration form

Please also note:

- Selections should be from the classical art song/aria repertoire.
- Musical Theatre or Popular songs are discouraged.
- Selections may be recorded using either live accompaniment or a pre-recorded piano track.

Submissions must be uploaded by April 7, 2023 to the following link

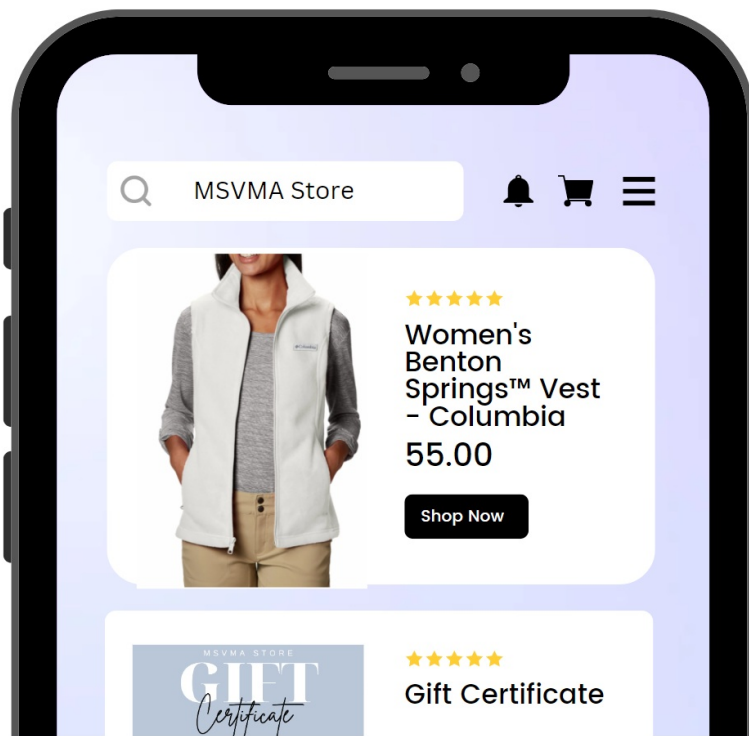
<https://www.dropbox.com/request/SCwPEDhLMxL8uDlba38i>

Finalists will be notified by April 14, 2023 and will be invited to perform a selection of their choosing during our Spring Concert on May 20, 2023. Please note that the concert will be recorded and portions may be used by Madrigal Chorale.

Questions may be directed to John Niesen at [madrigalchoralescholarship@gmail.com](mailto:madrigalchoralescholarship@gmail.com)

Scholarship Application Form

MSVMA Merch is available!

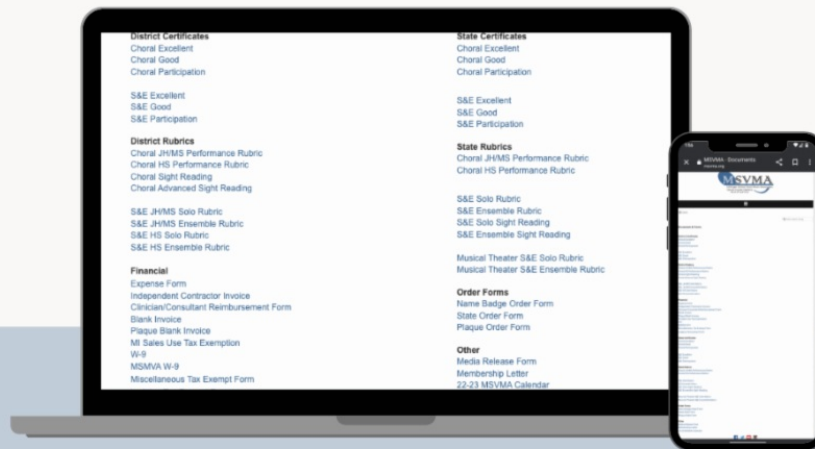


Visit our MSVMA Store

**MSVMA.org - An excellent source for information!**

## DID YOU KNOW?

Under the Documents tab on the MSVMA website, you can find District & State festival certificates, rubrics, order forms, financial documents and other valuable resources.



**Want to submit a story for Tempo!**

 [feedback@msvma.org](mailto:feedback@msvma.org)

## MSVMA Sponsors

The Michigan School Vocal Music Association is proud to be supported by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA) and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).



To become an MSVMA sponsor, contact Executive Director Erik Jacobson at [erikjacobson@msvma.org](mailto:erikjacobson@msvma.org).



MSVMA | P.O. Box 1131, Big Rapids, MI 49307

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