



Tempo!

SPECIAL EDITION: SUMMER CONFERENCE

Congratulations to the Summer Conference Committee of Eric Cadena, Bridgit Cook and Jan Boswell for the delivery of an outstanding professional development opportunity for MSVMA members.

Highlights included:

- Superb Headliner sessions with Dr. Brad Holmes who shared his perspectives as a conductor/teacher and composer.
- Exceptionally interesting breakout sessions with our presenters. Numerous sessions included reading packets for attendees to sing together through new and diverse literature.
- Insightful, authentic and inspiring remarks by Sheri Petersen, our Teacher of the Year. Thank you for sharing your MSVMA journey with us!
- Generous support from our sponsor Musical Resources, who is our partner for all sheet music needs for MSVMA events.
- Interactive questions like our social media discussions in the main hall. Thank you Bridgit Cook for bringing us this idea!
- State Board Continuing Education Clock Hours (SCECH) certified programming. A specific thank you to Jan Boswell for her work to supervise this aspect of the conference!
- Stunningly beautiful river and bridge views at the Blue Water Convention Center and DoubleTree Hotel in Port Huron.

Thank you to each of our volunteer presenters for their preparation, planning and content rich delivery: Dr. Jacob Berglin, Jeffrey Cobb, Dan Dade, Anthony Funaro, Carrie Hoeksema, Aaron Hotelling, Dr. Brandon Johnson, Dr. Robert C. Jordan, Carrie Ledet, Joel Moore, Dr. Clayton Parr, Sheri Petersen, Tricia Rogers, Katherine Rohwer, Leslie Rowsey, Ronald Rudland, Megan Sinclair, Matthew Snell, Jessica Tippet, Samara Valla, Kristina Vidal, Dr. James Watson, Catheryn Windelborn, Kathryn Witkowski.

Thank you to our volunteer collaborative pianists! We cannot thank you enough for giving your time and skillset: Dianna Hochella, Sheri Petersen, Jay Schumacher and Hannah Watson.

Thank you to each of our volunteer room monitors for verifying and signing SCECH forms: Amy Blevins, Kyle Cain, Bridgit Cook, Ryan Dawley, Kelli Falls, Anthony Funaro, Andrew Hathikhanavala, Dianna Hochella, Julia Holt, Joel Moore, Clayton Parr, Pam Pierson, Jacob Salisbury, Megan Sinclair, Cate Windelborn, Kathryn Witkowski, Wendee Wolf-Schlarf, Gail Worden, Arielle Wroblewski and Jeff Zurkan.

As I've completed my responsibilities for the Summer Conference, I leave with mixed emotions. I experienced so much joy being an integral member of the team to bring our members together for this professional development. It's difficult to say goodbye as change is always tough. However, I know systems and details are in place for the next leader because of the hard work and comprehensive discussions of the State Office staff and the Summer Conference team.

Submitted by Eric Cadena, President-Elect

Pictured left to right:
Summer Conference Committee
Jan Boswell, Supervisor
Eric Cadena, Director
Bridgit Cook, Supervisor



Ever wonder what goes on in the minds of your MSVMA colleagues? Bridgit Cook asked a couple of these important questions at the Summer Conference.

If you weren't a choir director/voice teacher of awesomeness, what would you be?

Disney Princess Voice	Theme park YouTube Creator	Public Relations
Physical Therapist	Accountant	Engineer
Event Planner	Baker	Florist
Graphic Designer	Park Ranger	Car Salesman
History or English Teacher	Musical Theatre Performer	Vet
Horse Trainer	Writer	History Professor
Librarian	Costume Designer	Weatherman
Lawyer	Roller Coaster Engineer	Sad
Chef	Relaxed	

Lyrics that stick with you and what is it from?

"It's just a spark but it's enough to keep me going
And when it's dark out and no one's around it keeps glowing." Last Hope by Paramore

Follow Me by Uncle Kracker

"Life is moments you can't understand" by Bill Finn of the Falsettos

"Look around - how lucky we are to be alive right now!" by Lin-Manuel Miranda, Hamilton





2023 Teacher of the Year: Sheri Petersen



Sheri Petersen is enjoying her twenty-seventh year of teaching choral music, currently at Grand Ledge High School. She has taught previously at Grand Ledge Hayes Middle School, Williamston High School and Middle School, Swartz Creek High School and Middle School, and Berkley Norup Middle School. Sheri earned her Bachelor of Music Education from Alma College and holds a Master of Music in Choral Conducting degree from Michigan State University.

Sheri's students consistently excel at MSVMA events such as Solo & Ensemble and Choral Festivals, both at the district and state levels; State Honors Choirs; All-State Choir; and Michigan Youth Arts Festival/All-State Festival. The Grand Ledge Choirs perform yearly Masterwork concerts under her direction. The Grand Ledge High School Madrigals and Bel Canto performed at the 2020 Michigan Music Conference Choral Hours. The GLHS Madrigals performed at the 2022 and 2011 ACDA-Michigan State Conference. Sheri's high school ensembles have been honored with invitations to sing in the Outstanding Ensemble recital at the Michigan Youth Arts Festival/MSVMA All-State Festival in 2000, 2003, 2004, 2010, 2017, and most recently in 2022 with the Grand Ledge Madrigal Women. Sheri has had the privilege of directing the 2009 SSA Middle School State Honors Choir and the 2013 SSAA High School State Honors Choir.

Sheri directed the SSA Middle School Choir Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp from 2010-2014. She also spent two summers teaching at Interlochen Arts Camp in the All-State Choir program. Sheri was the recipient of the Carolyn Leep Scholarship in 1999 and is an active member of MSVMA and ACDA. She served as the Chancel Choir director at Holt United Methodist Church, from 2005-2016.

Sheri resides in Lansing with her handsome husband, Cory, and sweet little dog, Lola.

Submitted by Sheri Petersen

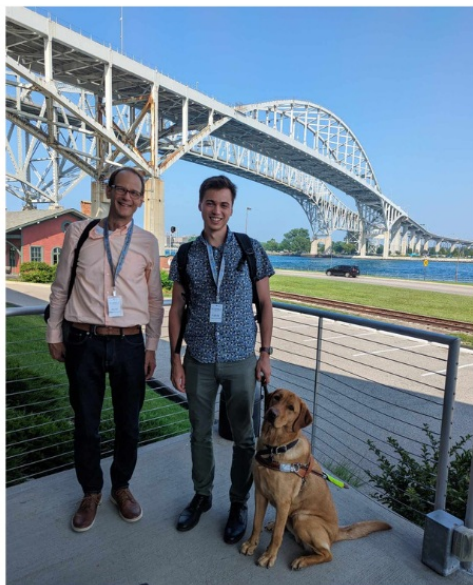
Save the Date!



JULY 31 & AUGUST 1
SUMMER
CONFERENCE

THE LANSING CENTER

Meet Calvin VanZytveld Summer Conference Attendee



Pictured left to right:
David VanZytvel
Choral Teacher, Jenison Christian School
Calvin VanZytvel
Ph. D. Student, Stanford University
Wake

How was the overall experience for Summer Conference for you?

I loved learning from the wonderful speakers in such an idyllic location, overlooking the St. Clair River. Even though I am not myself a choral director, I found I had lots to chat about with the other attendees.

What drew you into registering for Summer Conference?

One of my research interests is early American hymnody, so when my father who is the choral teacher at Jenison Christian School noticed that one of the lectures by the keynote speakers was on shape-note singing, he passed along the conference information to me. I was interested in learning how a great choral director such as Brad Holmes goes about teaching the idiosyncrasies of the shape note tradition.

What was the most valuable and/or something new you learned these past two days?

The way Brad Holmes maps choral tone across three axes (vowel shape, vibrato, and resonance), with corresponding examples from his own choir, will stick with me forever, I suspect. I love when analytic tools help explain the particular flavor of a musical performance!

What advice would you give to your younger self?

I would tell myself to obsess about the science and technique of performing—both for cello and singing. To quote pianist Yefim Bronfman “Anyone can interpret music, but not everyone can play the notes.” And somewhat paradoxically, I’ve noticed that many of the older musicians I know who are still passionately geeking out about music are engrossed in solving technical problems for themselves and their students.

Calvin Van Zytveld is pursuing a Ph.D. in Musicology at Stanford University. He graduated summa cum laude in music from Princeton University, with additional studies at the Royal College of Music in London and graduate work in cello performance and music composition at the University of Michigan. He has worked for More Canvas Consulting, assisting clients with implementing accessible digital practices. Calvin enjoys playing jazz drums, growing organic vegetables in his backyard, and walking to coffee shops with his guide dog Wake.

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