

ACDA Roundtable Senior High Discussion

Question: What does ACDA do for us?

1. Convention
2. Honor Choirs
3. Personal Inspiration
4. Choral Journal

Suggestions:

- Wonderful higher academia but needs more nuts and bolts; practical tools for Elementary, Middle School and High School
- Web-based “journal” should make it possible (cost wise) to provide more.
- Very helpful to link to other divisions on-line
- Would like to see/create a set of choral standards and until the National Standards which are focused on what the individual is doing, ACDA should have standards for what can/should be achieved by a group
- Strategies for “selling” choral music to school administrators
- ACDA could have an award program/service organization
- New areas instead of tried and true practices
- Interest Session
- More Demonstration Groups
- Younger Choirs
- Pedagogy
- Be able to watch the Honor Choir directors work with students
- More work sessions
- Classroom management
- Don’t just talk-show!
- Get a vision at conventions
- Advocacy – What we offer and Choral Assessment
- Unified
- Place to get resources

Likes

- Choral Journal
- Repertoire & Standards
- Compact Discs
- Reviews of repertory suggestions

Dislikes

- Discussion from current High School directors on “tried and true” pieces (referring to the reviews of new music)

- Very slow to embrace the internet
- Use of You Tube-when searching for quality performances
- Use of something like NAXOS
- Communication between divisions (on website).
- Use of technology and pod casts/ (limited access)
- Music exchange
- Electronic communication
- Attainable music for small choral program (State Repertory List)

Needs

- Blog for reviewing pieces – with capabilities for experienced teachers to rate/comment.
 - Discussion Board for 1st day ideas-from experienced teachers.
 - Sort of Choralnet.net/choral list
 - Links on ACDA page
- Resources in MO Repertoire & Standards chair moacda.org

Specialized Music

- Performances of smaller, quality ensembles

Standards

- Should consider size of program
- School responsibility
- Structure of choir
- Rubric
- Publishers – Need to give music
- Diversity
- Interest sessions with directors of invited choirs
- Sight reading

Vision

- Knowing the repertoire that is accessible to the Building Choir, not at the level of National ACDA so High School repertoire needs to apply to all levels and abilities of choirs.
- Push for Professional Development
 - For the teacher to ask it doesn't do much good we need others to advocate
- Vision includes the idea of a national standard
- Technology exists to assist in sight-singing
- Codify Standards-inclusive sight-singing and determine what is a level 5 and is it the same everywhere

- We can have a standards even assessments but some schools are struggling to even have a program
- Advocacy is strong in MMEA, but perhaps could be strengthened in ACDA-coordinated w/MMEA-would work for legislation
- Fostering lifelong love of music
 - Utilize professional groups-take kids out, etc.
 - Concert attendance required
 - Sweet Adelines & Barbershoppers – Find out about area adult choirs-get the info out to the High School kids.
- Get lists of existing choirs according to the genres and post those lists so kids can see
- Educating people about text and concert etiquette
- Take kids to see concerts
- College choirs visiting with kids from school as an assembly-good for them to see they can sing post-high school
- Staff Development Funds area dependent on validating that the conference will fulfill a school climate, so perhaps some interest sessions could address commonly held school goals
- Do we want National standards for all schools?
- Is there a National ACDA Repertoire list rather than states –
 - It needs to be approachable
- More collaboration with MENC, who has the national recognition
- Maybe ACDA needs to promote itself better
- Graded literature National list
- National standard for selecting literature
- Rubrics for choosing groups
- Time frame for National
- Purpose for Honor chairs and venue raise standards
- Addressing inner city urban choirs
- Blog for rehearsal techniques
- More website information
- Mentors from ACDA Workshops
- Encouraging collegiate ACDA chapters and interacting
- Creating ACDA chapters
- Outreach/Advocacy
 - Arts endowment
 - Grant Writing Workshops
 - Creating scholarships
- Music as Service to Community
- Recognizing Service Oriented groups