In an effort to celebrate belonging through choral processes, we are excited to announce the launch of a new initiative at the national level: Insight Choirs. Insight Choir sessions position both the conductor/music educator and their ensemble to collaboratively present and perform their research, pedagogical practices, or processes. We seek proposals for 50-minute sessions that actively engage all components of our membership, as belonging starts with access. If you are a conductor looking to present an Interest Session using your choir as a demonstration choir, you should apply as an Insight Choir.

The 2023 conference theme is *A Place of Belonging*. We will consider all Interest Session/Insight Choir topics. We are particularly interested in topics that embody DEIAB (diversity, equity, inclusion, access, and belonging) values and philosophies, pedagogical strength, scholarly content, and topical relevance to our community. Topics could include, but are not limited to:

• Living composer-conductor collaborations

• Lecture performances of underrepresented composers and/or cultural traditions

• Experiential approaches to repertoire and pedagogy

• Embedded community and socially conscious practices

• Action research projects

• The development of mission and vision within the organization or ensemble

We strongly encourage applicants who embody the following interests to apply:

• Ensembles that bring attention to excellent work in regards to embodying a socially conscious mission that is as important, if not more important, than their musical objectives

• Ensembles whose processes celebrate the diversity of the choral arts through culturally grounded practice

• Non-auditioned choirs, or ensembles that operate and rehearse in flexible and alternative ways for the sake of the needs of their membership and community at large

I. Eligibility & Expectations

Presenters must be current members of ACDA. Note that all accepted presenters are expected to meet ALL posted dates and deadlines. We reserve the right to make adjustments to any session at any point.

II. Conference Registration and Travel Info

It is understood that ACDA will not assume financial responsibility for registration, travel, food, or lodging for the conductor and the ensemble. This online application implies that the conductor and the ensemble are prepared to travel and perform at the conference if accepted.

III. Session Presenter Expectations

Presenters must be current members of ACDA willing to grant ACDA rights to record their presentation and allow ACDA to use such recordings to advance the mission of ACDA. Note that all accepted presenters are expected to meet ALL posted dates and deadlines. We reserve the right to make adjustments to any session at any point.

IV. Application Process

All materials listed below will be submitted and uploaded through the Submittable platform at acda.org/conferences, or the QR code on page 51, no later than April 15, 2022.

1. Session Title - The session title should be carefully considered, brief, and reflective of the session's content, and be no longer than 10 words.

2. Ensemble Statement - To ensure a diverse and responsive conference, applicants are asked to share about their ensemble mission and practices in a narrative no longer than 300 words. The narrative should include:

    a. The demographics of the ensemble, institution, and/or the wider community

    b. The ensemble's history, mission, values, and philosophy

    c. The ensemble's approach to rehearsal and performance

    d. How/If the ensemble works with the wider community

    e. How/If the ensemble meets the needs of a specific population

3. Session Abstracts - Abstracts should clearly address an anticipated need for communal practice within a compelling thesis, outline key learning outcomes, and provide a succinct outline for the session:

    a. 500 words, which will be used to help evaluate your session and used in the conference app (thesis, learning outcomes, and outline)

    b. 100 words, which will solely be used in *Choral Journal* advertisements (thesis, learning outcomes, and outline)

4. Recordings featuring performances that highlight the ensemble's work from 2019 to 2022:

   a. Up to three audio and/or video recording(s) totaling between 10 and 30 minutes should be submitted. These should provide evidence of your ensemble's ability to clearly demonstrate the process(es) described in your session's outline. At least one example of the current makeup of the ensemble in performance should be included.

   b. If you wish to submit links to YouTube videos, upload a pdf file with active links to the videos.

   c. If you are submitting actual video or recordings, the accepted file formats are: mp3, m4v, mkv, and mp4.

   d. Headshot of the conductor(s) in .jpg format.

   e. Photo of the Ensemble in .jpg format. Note: Ensembles that are selected will have the opportunity to resubmit updated photos by October 1, 2022, for publication in *Choral Journal*.

V. Selection Process

Each submission will be reviewed by ACDA National Repertoire and Resource chairs and by the Conference Steering Committee. This year, all completed applications will be sent feedback with a completed rubric. The rubric showing the performance criteria and rating scales that will be used by the adjudicators is available on February 1, 2022, at www.acda.org/conferences, or the QR code below.

VI. Schedule of Dates and Application Link

• Auditions Open: February 1, 2022

• By April 15, 2022: Audition application, uploads, and payment completed by 11:59 pm CDT

• By June 15, 2022: National auditions review completed

• By July 1, 2022: Applicants notified of audition results

Application available February 1, 2022, online through the Submittable platform at **acda.org/conferences, or the QR code below**.

www.acda.org/conferences