

## **Yes, We Test Too: Assessment in the Middle School Choral Classroom** **Eric Johnson**

Join us as we explore options and opportunities for assessment in general knowledge, vocal ability, and ear training. We will explore opportunities to use technology in assessment and how a rubric can guide your students in self-assessment.

## **What's in Your Toolbox? Strategies for Engaging Young Singers** **Eric Johnson**

Join us as we look at some of the tools and tricks of the trade that you already have in your tool box and some you can add to get your students up and singing. Through the use of simple objects and imagery your choir can be elevated to new artistic heights.

**Eric Johnson** was the choral director at James E. Holmes Middle School in Eden, NC nine and a half years. At Holmes he directed a choral program of 280 singers in five choirs. In the fall of 2016 he begins work on his PhD in Music Education at the University of Mississippi. With degrees from Appalachian State in Music Education, and Sacred Music Performance, as well as masters in Music Education from the Florida State University, he is very active in the musical world as an educator, clinician, and presenter. Eric was previously the Artistic Director of the Lenoir-Rhyne Youth Chorus and has served numerous churches as Director of Music. He also served on the executive boards for NCMEA as technology facilitator and NC ACDA as the Repertoire and Resources for Junior High/Middle School Choirs along with coordinating state, divisional, and national honor choirs.

## **Theory: It's NOT a 4-letter word!** **Margaret Heron**

Teaching musicianship in a performance world" Every ensemble is comprised of students with varying levels of ability and motivation. How do we have time to teach and assess every student at his/her own level? Where is the model for teaching more than performance within our rehearsal times? This session will address these issues and will show you a new approach to implement a sequential, comprehensive method that meets the needs of every student in your rehearsals with minimum class time.

**Margaret Heron**, a Nationally Board-Certified Teacher is the Choral Director and AP Music Theory Instructor at Mortimer Jordan High School and Choral Director at North Jefferson Middle School. For her first seven years, Mrs. Heron also taught Jr. and Sr. High Band and her bands consistently scored superiors at festivals throughout the South. She earned a BA in Instrumental Music Education from the University of Alabama and a MA in Choral Music Education from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Her choirs have consistently received Superior ratings nationally and internationally and have performed at several

AMEA, AVA, and ACDA conferences. Mrs. Heron serves as the Touring Choir director of the Birmingham Girls Choir and has been the Choral Clinician and adjudicator for various honor choirs, festivals, and camps throughout the south. She has served on both the Alabama Choral Directors Association and the Alabama Vocal Association boards and on the committee, that wrote the curriculum for teachers in her school system's K-12 music education. Mrs. Heron is also a Question Leader for the College Board AP Music Theory Reading in the summers.

### **Stories That Sing**

#### **Jeanette Shorey**

What do you mean you want me to teach reading skills in my music classroom? Cross curricular teaching is all the rage, and it's not just for classroom teachers. Find your inner reading teacher in this workshop, designed to help you integrate reading skills without sacrificing your curriculum.

This workshop uses children's picture books to help students learn music skills like dynamics, rhythm, timbre, and much more. Lessons are geared towards PreK through 5th grade and usually involve several extensions, allowing for multiple applications. Jeanette has a specialization in literacy and can help music teachers speak the reading lingo. In just a few simple steps, she can integrate reading skills into any traditional music lesson. This workshop is full of good, usable information that music teachers will be able to take back to their classrooms and use right away.

**Jeanette Shorey** is an Arts Integration Specialist who designs exciting musical lesson for children. She is National Board Certified and has her Masters of Science in Elementary Education with a specialization in Literacy. Jeanette has been an elementary school music teacher for over 18 years. She is currently living in Birmingham, AL and teaching at Oak Mountain Intermediate School. Jeanette integrates literacy skills into every lesson she teaches. She has presented at many music, reading, and arts integration conferences. Jeanette is in the process of publishing a book of lesson plans with Denise Gagne entitled Stories That Sing.

### **Community Folk Dance**

#### **Jennifer Donovan**

Build community with your students, staff, and their families through folk dance. We will explore folk dances that dancers of all levels will enjoy.

### **Creating Community with Meaningful Movement**

#### **Jennifer Donovan**

Using creative and patterned movement, participants will build knowledge of musical concepts while also building community and creating a positive climate for learning.

## **Recorder Compositions? Yes, They Can!**

**Jennifer Donovan**

Students can compose! Participants will create compositions that 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade recorder players will love.

## **Performance Possibilities: Barn Dance!**

**Jennifer Donovan**

Participants will build a student performance using the Orff instruments, body percussion, singing, and movement.

**Jennifer Donovan** teaches at Clear Creek Elementary School in Shawnee, Kansas. She is a past president of the Kansas Orff Chapter and has served on the AOSA National Board of Trustees as Region III Representative and Treasurer and was the National Conference Chair for the 2016 AOSA Conference in Atlantic City. In was on the 2009 Kansas Teacher of the Year team and is currently serving on the 2018 Kansas Teacher of the Year team. She was the 2012 recipient of the World Village Wildcard scholarship and attended the JaSeSoiRy World Village in Valkeala, Finland.

## **The ABC's of Pop A Cappella**

**Carol Joy Sparkman and LaDona Tyson**

Due to the popularity of "Pitch Perfect", "The Sing-Off," and Pentatonix, Pop A Cappella has become a rising trend among middle school, high school, and college choral programs. This session will offer information to choral directors who desire to add Pop A Cappella ensembles to their program or are searching for additional resources for existing ensembles.

**Carol Joy Sparkman** is in her third year as the Choral Director at Clinton High School in Clinton, Mississippi, where she directs four choirs and two pop a cappella ensembles. She began her career as a member of the Mississippi College music faculty where she was the collaborative pianist, directed Mixed Company, a vocal jazz ensemble, and was Musical Director for The Mississippi College Opera/Musical Theater. Sparkman received the Bachelor of Music in Education and a Master of Music in Vocal Coaching/Accompanying degrees from Mississippi College.

Co-Presenter **LaDona Tyson** is in her 10th year as Choral Director at Pearl River Community College, where she directs PRCC Singers and The Voices pop a cappella group. LaDona is also the Assistant Director of the Brownstone Center for the Arts. She holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree from William Carey College, a Master of Music degree in Choral Conducting from the University of Southern Mississippi, and is currently pursuing a PhD in Music Education at Southern Miss. Prior to her appointment at PRCC, Mrs. Tyson held the position

of Assistant Choral Director at Petal High School. An active member of the A Cappella Education Association, NAFME, and ACDA, Mrs. Tyson is a frequent adjudicator for concert choir and showchoir contests and festivals throughout Mississippi, Louisiana, and Alabama. Mrs. Tyson also serves on the Mississippi ACDA Board of Directors as the Two-Year Repertoire and Resources Chair.

### **Music First: Junior High and High School Integrated Solutions**

#### **Robin Hudson**

MusicFirst is an integrated solution for how you teach and assess students of all grade levels: come and see how you can easily assign work for students in a low-cost, engaging & fun environment

### **Five Ways for Students to Be Creative**

#### **Robin Hudson**

This session will focus on how to use and teach with 5 cloud based software titles: Noteflight (notation), Soundation or Soundtrap (sequencing), O-Generator (looping and learning to compose rhythms), MSMA (pitch and rhythm painting and lots of music lessons) & Groovy Music (creative sequencer with lessons for younger students)

**Robin Hodson** is educational manager for MusicFirst, based in Baltimore. He was with Sibelius for 13 years, then Korg and now MusicFirst. He has authored many free guides/videos on how to use and learn all kinds of music software, and has trained schools all over the country on MusicFirst.

### **A Collective Effort: Increasing Engagement and Artistry through Student Collaboration**

#### **Jeremy Wiggins**

Student collaboration increases engagement and creates an environment where students take ownership of the learning process and work towards the musical and social success of the choir. Attendees will take part in an interactive session that demonstrates various large, small, and one-on-one activities that promote a student-powered rehearsal.

### **Making Each Moment Count: Incorporating Skill-Building Throughout the Rehearsal**

#### **Jeremy Wiggins**

With limited time and much to accomplish, it is vital that we find ways to incorporate skill-building throughout the rehearsal. This interactive session will demonstrate creative uses of audiation, tuning games, and rhythm/tonal exercises that are great warm-ups/musicianship exercises and are easily applied to repertoire rehearsal.

**Jeremy Wiggins** is an active adjudicator, clinician, and conductor who has worked with ensembles middle, high school, collegiate, and church choirs throughout the United States. Wiggins is currently pursuing a Ph.D. student in Choral Conducting and Music Education at Florida State University. Prior to pursuing his doctorate, Wiggins taught secondary choral music in southern California for nine years. His choirs at San Clemente High School and West Covina High School toured nationally and received top ratings and scores at regional and national choral festivals. Wiggins also served as a faculty member for the Opera Program at the Southern Orange County High School for the Arts. Wiggins holds a B.A. in Choral Music Education and M.M. in Choral Conducting from California State University, Fullerton.

### **The Hurry-Up No Huddle Classroom: How College Football Can't Change Your Classroom**

**Philip Stockton**

The purpose of this session is to give teachers insight on the practice of pacing in the choral rehearsal. Many college football teams have moved to a hurried pace on offense to reduce the defense's ability to react to the play of the game. This session will showcase ways that teachers can keep their students engaged, accomplish a larger number of tasks, and reduce the amount of non-musical behavior in the rehearsal. By applying the procedures given teachers will have more successful rehearsals and will foster a greater learning environment.

### **College Immersion**

**Philip Stockton**

**Mark Malone**

College Students! This is a great session to introduce you to all the things that ACDA and NAFME have to offer you as a young professional.

**Dr. Phillip Stockton**, Assistant Professor of Music Education and Director of Choral Activities at Mississippi University for Women, received his Bachelors of Music Education from Auburn University, Masters of Music Education from Florida State University, and Ph.D in Music Education from the University of Mississippi. Before coming to MUW, Dr. Stockton was Director of Choral Activities at Mandarin High School in Jacksonville, Florida where his choirs consistently received superior ratings at performance assessment. Dr. Stockton is in his fifth year at The W and has seen the program grow during that time. He remains an active clinician and judge for choirs throughout Alabama, Mississippi, and Florida. He is an active member of the American Choral Director's Association (ACDA) and the National Association for Music Education (NAfME), and is currently the R&R for College/University for the Mississippi ACDA. Dr. Stockton is married to his lovely wife Amy and together have a son Lee and a daughter Molly.

Co-Presenter, **Dr. Mark Hugh Malone** is in his eleventh year as Coordinator of Music Education and Professor of Music in The Winters School of Music at William Carey University in Hattiesburg, MS. Malone is a native of Miami, FL and holds the B.S. in Social Studies Education from The Florida State University, the B.A. in Humanities from Rollins College, as well as the Master of Music Education and the Ph.D. in Music Education from The Florida State University.

### **The World is Your Oyster! Building Cross-Curricular Connections through Folk Music and Movement**

**Catherine Dwinal**

In this session, we'll explore folk songs from cultures around the world, using movement, instruments, improvisation, and technology to extract solid cross-curricular connections in geography, history, and language - all while meeting your general music objectives. Participants will walk away with activities they can implement right away!

### **Projects for Every Process: Encouraging Students to Create, Perform, Respond and Connect**

**Catherine Dwinal**

The foundation of any music class: Create, Perform, Respond, and Connect. This workshop will demonstrate simple projects assessing these four artistic processes that are fun, time saving, and easily assessable!

**Catherine Dwinal** taught elementary music in Laconia, New Hampshire from 2010-2014 and was named Technology in Music Education Organization's 2014 Teacher of the Year. In 2014, she joined the Quaver Team as Teacher Trainer and Northeast Key Accounts Representative. A seasoned conference presenter, Catie has presented in several states across the country and is active in music education and technology groups across the web. She's currently living in Nashville, Tennessee now working as Quaver's Special Projects Coordinator and pursuing her Masters in Curriculum and Instruction with a Specialty in Digital Teaching and Learning from Kansas State University.

### **Take the Stress out of the Test: Assess with Musical Games!**

**Alicia Canterbury**

Does the "T" word stress you out? Learn how to use a variety of games to assess your students in a fun way and to increase the rigor in your general music classroom! Tools for assessment will be discussed and how to integrate assessment in a fun and low-maintenance way. Attendees will leave this clinic with great ideas that can instantly be applied to any music classroom.

**Alicia Canterbury** is a PhD student and graduate assistant in Music Education at the University of Mississippi. She has taught elementary general music and directed school choirs for 12 years in Georgia. In the past, she has presented at

music educator conferences in Georgia and Missouri and at the national American Choral Directors Association's Conference on numerous topics related to general music instruction and elementary choral methods. She is Orff Level 1 and 2 certified. She holds the Masters of Music degree in Music Education from Texas Tech University and the Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education from Mercer University.

### **Chopping Down the Rhythm Tree**

#### **Dr. Curtis Tredway**

The Status Quo has got to GO! This clinic will guide the audience to discover observable behaviors associated with music performance, and particularly those related to rhythm reading. These behaviors will be organized into a sequence of instruction that optimizes the teaching and learning experience.

**Dr. Curtis Tredway** is Associate Professor of Music Education at the University of Texas at El Paso, where he has been a member of the faculty since 1993. Currently he teaches Elementary Music Education, Secondary Music Education, student teachers, and numerous graduate classes. Dr. Tredway holds degrees from The Florida State University, and the University of Southern Mississippi. Prior to his appointment at UTEP, Dr. Tredway taught several years in the public schools of Florida.

### **Creating Creative Musicians**

#### **Gregory W. LeFils**

Conductors often confidently exclaim that singing in choir breeds the development of creativity, problem-solving skills, and critical thinking. Evidence however points out that our students are more frequently obedient direction followers. This session will explore ways in which conductors can create more opportunities to foster ingenuity, musicianship, student leadership, enhancing performance, musical literacy, and rehearsal engagement.

### **Teaching for Transfer: Making Every Moment Count**

#### **Gregory W. LeFils**

The ability of our students to make connections from one activity to another is a key component to their retention and performance of rehearsal information. This session will examine teaching methods designed to help our students make those connections that will speed up your rehearsal and quicken their musical understanding of the repertoire. These methods will be directly applied to warm-ups, skill-building and sight-singing, and within sample repertoire.

### **Building Community in the Choral Rehearsal**

#### **Gregory W. LeFils**

Our secondary students are often in search of a place of belonging and acceptance. We conductors are responsible for creating this environment. This session will examine strategies for fostering a communal environment involving

vulnerability, nurturing, trust, collaboration, playing, building traditions, and fostering group commitment.

**Dr. Gregory W. LeFils Jr.** is a visiting assistant professor of choral music education at Stetson University. His duties include teaching music education classes and supervising student teachers. Dr. LeFils holds a Ph.D. in music education from The Florida State University.

### **Exploring the Mississippi College-and Career-Readiness Arts Learning Standards for Music**

**Limeul Eubanks, Mississippi Department of Education**

**Chris Young, Clinton Public School District**

**Jennifer Davis, Meridian Public School District**

**Althea Jerome, Music Educator**

**Mark Malone, William Carey University.**

This session will be an overview and breakdown of the 2017 *Mississippi College-and Career-Readiness Arts Learning Standards for Music*. The session will examine the terminology of the new Arts Learning Standards documents as well as identify key concepts, knowledge and skills students should know and be able to do in preparation for college and career.

### **Composition in the 21st Century Classroom**

**Adriana Janse van Rensburg**

How do I teach composition? I never had composition instruction at college! I don't compose! This session will provide a way forward through hands-on activities, ideas, inspiration, and a "how to" guide for introducing or expanding composition in the classroom. Twentieth Century techniques, Media Poems, technology, graphic notation, soundscapes, triad-melody technique, Aleatoric music, Video Fun, iPads, and more will be explored.

**Adriana Janse van Rensburg** holds B. Mus (Ed), B. Mus Honors, M. Mus, M.MU, Ph.D. in music education. She also obtained piano performance Licentiate from UNISA and the ROYAL SCHOOLS OF MUSIC (London). Her Masters dissertation focused on guided composition for teens and her doctoral dissertation focused on Songwriting in Adolescence. She obtained a second Masters degree in music education at Georgia State University. After 28 years in the classroom teaching elementary, middle, high school and college level students, she served as Program Manager for a.r.t.s.APS, Atlanta Public Schools. She served on the adjunct faculty of Georgia State University teaching Arts Integration, the Education Board of Spivey Hall at Clayton State University. Dr. van Rensburg presents lectures and training nationwide in Music Composition in the Classroom. Dr. Janse van Rensburg is the author of several publications on music composition (amazon.com) and the composer of several piano compositions (sheetmusicplus.com).



### **Elementary Reading Session**

#### **Mary Leigh Ochoa**

Mary Leigh Ochoa is a long-time music educator who has taught Elementary Music, as well as middle and High School choirs. She began her career in Petal, MS. In 2000, she moved to Nashville, TN, where she was a music specialist, presented at various professional development events, and served on the curriculum writing committee for grades 1-12. In 2012, she moved to Madison, MS, where she taught choral music at Madison Middle School. Her choirs consistently received Superior ratings in both performance and sight reading. Mrs. Ochoa retired in the Spring of 2016, and continues as part of the professional community. She maintains a private piano and voice studio and works with Nashville Metro Nashville Schools as a consultant.

### **Junior High Reading Session**

#### **Kristy Brumfield**

**Kristy Brumfield** is a native of Clinton, MS, and resides with her husband in Vicksburg, MS, where she works as a choral director and music specialist at Porter's Chapel Academy. They are the proud parents of three college students. She is active in her church as a choir member, soloist, children's choir director, and Sunday School teacher. She holds a Bachelor of Music Education and a Master of Music in Choral Conducting from Mississippi College. She has taught music and directed choirs in both public and private schools in the central Mississippi area, and has recently received her third "Teacher of the Year" honor. She was selected as "Educator of the Year" by the Vicksburg-Warren Chamber of Commerce for 2016. Kristy is frequently called upon to judge talent, choral, and solo competitions. She has served on the production staff of the Miss Mississippi's Outstanding Teen pageant as co-producer and vocal coach. Kristy is a member of the American Choral Director's Association, Mississippi Association of Pageant Judges, National Association for Music Educators, and the Mississippi Music Educators Association.

### **High Reading Session**

#### **Robert Sims**

**Robert Sims** is a graduate of Delta State University. While at Delta State Mr. Sims received a Bachelor and Master Degree in Music Education. In 2004 Mr. Sims was named Terry High School Teacher of the Year, Hinds County School District Teacher of the Year, and the Mississippi Music Educator of the Year. In 2006 Mr. Sims received the Ernestine Ferrell Award for 20+ years of teaching excellence in Mississippi. In 2009 Mr. Sims received the Delta State University Music Department Alumnus of the Year. Mr. Sims is very thankful and honored for this recognition.

## **Pop A Cappella Reading Session**

### **Andy Smigielski**

This reading session is geared towards Pop, Jazz, and Contemporary A Cappella choirs of all levels and abilities. In addition to the stock arrangements provided in the packet, information will be provided about custom arrangements and chart selection for this style of vocal ensemble.

**Andy Smigielski**, M.M., is in his sixth year as Director of Choral Activities at Forrest County Agricultural High School in Brooklyn, MS. He earned his Bachelor of Music Education and Master of Music in Choral Conducting degrees from The University of Southern Mississippi. Smigielski has grown the participation in choral activities at FCAHS by 113% since his first year. Partially due to this success, he was named the Chairperson of the Fine Arts/Electives Department. Mr. Smigielski is an active member of the American Choral Directors Association, the National Association for Music Education (formerly MENC), and the A Cappella Education Association. As such, he has presented interest sessions to the Louisiana and Mississippi chapters of ACDA on the benefits of contemporary a cappella ensembles in secondary choral music programs. Smigielski served as the Chairperson for District VIII of the Mississippi High School Activities Association and the Mississippi Music Educators Association from 2014-2016. Following his term as District Chair, he was elected Vice President of the High School Choral Division for the state through MMEA. Smigielski serves as Minister of Music at First Baptist Church of Glendale in Hattiesburg, MS. He is currently pursuing the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Choral Conducting at USM. He resides in Hattiesburg with his beautiful wife, Ashley, their sons, Caden and Ethan, and their cat, Thor.