

The **Hawai'i Chapter** *of the* **American Choral Directors Association**
proudly presents

Professional Development Day

a day of learning for conductors, teachers, and singers

Saturday, September 5, 2015
The University of Hawai'i—West O'ahu



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Welcome,

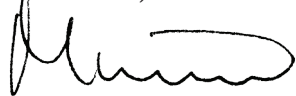
It is good to be together and I'm thrilled that so many have chosen to spend their hard-earned dollars and precious free time to be here today—*welcome*. Your presence indicates that you value our community, our choral art, and your own personal development and musical growth.

Today's Professional Development Day, a sort of choir camp for us choral geeks, marks a first for Hawai'i. The day represents a concrete effort of the Hawai'i Chapter of ACDA to provide hands-on resources to our choral community. Today speaks to the request that HI-ACDA offer a platform for local talents and that, unlike a festival, we plan an event focused on our own work. Finally, we hear that many want to see HI-ACDA develop programs outside central Honolulu. It is your board's intention that today addresses many of the hopes and, in so doing, infuses our community with new skills, new resources, new connections, and refreshed camaraderie.

When you see them today, please thank your HI-ACDA board members (listed on page 12 of this booklet) and especially Naomi Castro, program chair. Please also thank our generous hosts here at UH West O'ahu, especially Dr. Jon Magnussen. Without them, today would not be possible.

Welcome, again, and thank you for being a part of this exciting day.

With aloha,



Dr. Miguel Ángel Felipe
President, Hawai'i Chapter of
The American Choral Directors Association

Director of Choral Activities &
Assistant Professor of Music
The University of Hawai'i—Mānoa



About ACDA

The American Choral Directors Association

Founded in 1959, the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) is a nonprofit music-education organization whose central purpose is to **promote excellence in choral music through performance, composition, publication, research, and teaching**. In addition, ACDA strives through arts advocacy to elevate choral music's position in American society.

Membership consists of choral directors who represent more than one million singers across the United States. Members teach choral music in public and private schools—kindergarten through senior high school—and at the college and university levels. They conduct a variety of choral groups, including boychoirs, children's choirs, men's and women's choruses, junior and senior high school choirs, college and university choruses, ethnic choirs, vocal-jazz ensembles, and symphony choruses. They also conduct choirs in their communities and in their places of worship.

The Association is divided into seven geographic regions/divisions, as well as fifty state chapters, each with its own conferences, newsletters, festivals, clinics, and workshops. Whether at the National, Division, or State level, ACDA is structured so that its members can easily involve themselves in the organization's activities.



ACDA in Hawai'i

The Hawai'i state chapter of ACDA was founded in 1975 and serves as an invaluable resource for our choral community.

We sponsor events like today as well as workshops, clinics, and membership meetings throughout the year. HI-ACDA exists as the only organization in the state that serves the *choral community* directly. Together we foster and promote choral singing which will provide artistic, cultural, and spiritual experiences for the participants.

We advocate for the finest types of choral music to make these experiences possible. We also promote the organization and development of choral groups of all types in schools and colleges, houses of worship, and throughout our cities and communities. We recognize choral music as an important medium of contemporary artistic expression and we cooperate with other organizations dedicated to the development of musical culture in Hawai'i and America.

Here at home, HI-ACDA is proud to work through informal partnerships with our colleagues in the state chapters of the National Association for Music Education (NAfME or, locally, HMEA) and the American Guild of Organists (AGO).

For more information, visit ACDA.org and HawaiiACDA.org.



Schedule of Events

8:00 AM

Registration & Refreshments

8:30

Welcome, Dr. Miguel Felipe
Warm-up, Mr. Sangeet Gellhorn

10:15

“Vocal development in Young Children,” Ms. Julia Golding

9:00

“Singing 101,” Mr. Albert Tay

11:15

break

10:00

break

11:25

Reading Session, Mr. John Alexander

12:40 PM

Lunch

1:45

“Beautiful Bodies, Beautiful Music: Enhancing Music Making Through Body Awareness & Practical Applications,” Dr. Karen Cooksey

4:10

break

2:45

break

4:20

“How to Teach Pop-Style Singing to a Mostly Classical Choir,” Dr. Alec Schumacker

2:55

Keynote Presentation: **“Singapore: A Choral Exploration,”** Mr. Albert Tay

5:20

Closing

6:00

No-host **Dinner**, *optional*, at Kapōlei Chili's, Kapolei Shopping Center, 590 Farrington Hwy, Kapōlei

Interest Session Descriptions

Singing 101

What is healthy vocal technique? What are some of the things we should be aware of in vocal training as conductors working with amateur singers? What are some of the parameters of voice that conductors should be aware of when

dealing with the human voice? What are some of the challenges that conductors may face with vocal production in the choral setting and what are the strategies that are available in the arsenal to deal with such challenges?

Vocal Development in Young Children

‘Singing is the instinctive language of the child.’

— Zoltán Kodály

It is common knowledge that vocal range is wide from birth. Infants can imitate and experiment with their vocal instruments, and even pitch match as early as three or four months of age. Purposeful singing can begin at around twelve months. At this time, adults can recognize snippets of songs to which youngsters have been exposed. Through continued exposure to spoken chant, songs, and vocal play, young children can develop the use of their singing voices

during the remaining early childhood years.

If a child's environment has supported vocal development, most children will enter kindergarten with some use of their singing voice. Unfortunately this important skill is on the decline.

Julia will be speaking about the safe development of the young voice, and provide musical examples which can be used in the classroom.

Beautiful Bodies, Beautiful Music

Enhancing Music Making Through Body Awareness & Practical Applications

As singers and conductors we often say, “Our bodies are our instruments.” However, we would never imagine a virtuoso instrumentalist neglecting, or even abusing, her valuable instrument the way we tend to do with our own

bodies. We each have only one body to use for this lifetime. By learning how to better manage our bodies, we are able to become happier, healthier, and more productive people and musicians. During this session, we will assess how

we currently use our bodies and then identify ways to adjust or compensate for the behaviors that challenge the body's ideal state. Towards this end, we will explore a variety of bodywork methodologies such as medical physical therapy, kinesiology, soft tissue massage, chiroprac-

tic, ergonomics, Alexander Technique, Feldenkrais, yoga, and acupuncture/pressure. Armed with the ability to self-diagnose and the tools to self-treat, participants will be better able to create music.

Singapore

A Choral Exploration

The city-state of Singapore gained its independence 50 years ago on 9 August 1965. From a backwater third world British colony of yester-years, today's cosmopolitan Singapore has also

emerged as a choral powerhouse in the last few decades. Let us explore Singaporean choral music together and through this, understand the (choral) culture of this tropical island.

How to Teach Pop-Style Singing to a Mostly Classical Choir

In this talk, Dr. Schumacker will address how to teach healthy pop singing to a choir that's not used to singing in that style. Topics for discussion will include selecting and listening to good

vocal role models, rehearsal tools and tricks for the classroom, and what makes a good or bad arrangement of popular music for choir.



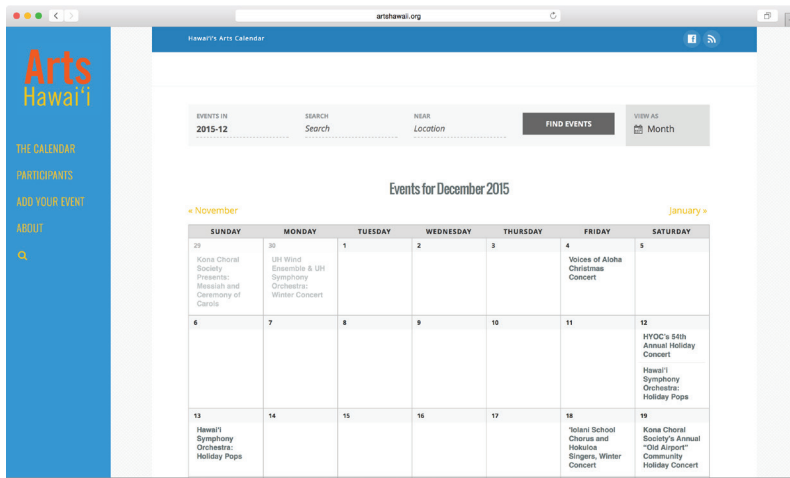
A crowd gathered in the Von Holt Room at The Cathedral of St. Andrew on September 28, 2014, for HI-ACDA's annual **Round Up**. This annual event give us all a chance to talk story with friends and colleagues before the year sweeps us away. For info about the 2015 Round Up on Saturday, September 26, a *free event*, see page 14.

Arts Hawai'i

Hawai'i's Arts Calendar

completely *free*
all arts events welcome
simple web calendar
and monthly emails
by artists in Hawai'i
for artists in Hawai'i

**visit today to receive monthly
listings or add your events**



Visit **ArtsHawaii.org** to see what's happening & to let others know what you're presenting.

It's **free** to list events and free to browse events.

Speaker Biographies

Mr. John Starr Alexander

Originally from Homer, New York, John Starr Alexander has been teaching choral music at 'Iolani School in Honolulu since 1982, during which time he has served as musical director, vocal director and/or pianist for more than thirty musicals around Honolulu. He was very active with the Hawai'i All-State High School Honor Choir from its reincarnation in 1986 through its untimely demise in 2009, and has assisted with the Ho'olōkahi Choral Festival, which has recently been renamed the Nā Leo Hou High School Choral Festival. He has also served as president of Hawai'i-ACDA, and is currently its secretary.

John was a soloist with the St. Andrew's Cathedral Choir for 25 years, and for three years directed the 8:00 Ensemble at The Lutheran Church of Honolulu. He writes and arranges choral and instrumental music and occasionally can be seen playing piano and singing at various night spots around town.

His favorite pastimes are hiking and lei making, but his first love is composition. His *Requiem*—which has been performed all over the US and throughout Europe, including a performance at the Vatican—was published by Colla Voce Music, Inc., along with more than a dozen other titles. Another of his works, *The Softness of My Mother's Hands*, commissioned by Iris Lamanna, director and co-founder of the Contra Costa Children's Choir, was performed at Carnegie Hall (2004), and by the National Elementary Children's Honor Choir at ACDA's national convention in Los Angeles (2005).



Dr. Karen Cooksey

In 2014, Karen Cooksey became assistant professor of music and director of choral activities at Transylvania University (Lexington, Ky.) where she conducts the Transylvania Choir and Pioneer Voices Men's Chorus. In the past year, Dr. Cooksey has, among other things, judged the international competition of the 12th China International Chorus Festival; given masterclasses at both the International Federation of Choral Music (IFCM) World Youth Choral Education Conference in Beijing and World Choral Symposium in Seoul; and guest conducted for the Southeastern Ky. Music Association's All-Festival and the Lafayette High School Women's Choir Festival. As part of the IFCM Conductors Without Borders program, she will teach in southern Ghana this October. From 2008 to 2013, Dr. Cooksey served as Associate Chorus Master at Los Angeles Opera

(LAO), where she assisted resident conductor Grant Gershon and conducted offstage ensembles for music director James Conlon and general director Plácido Domingo. She was first assistant conductor for the world premiere production of Daniel Catán's *Il Postino*, which was led by Maestro Gershon, featured Maestro Domingo, and filmed for broadcast on PBS' *Great Performances* series and DVD release by Sony Classical. She holds degrees from the USC, IU, and Butler University.



Mr. Sangeet Gellhorn

Sangeet Gellhorn grew up in England in a family of Western classical musicians. He studied in London, Berlin, and at York University. His teachers included Geoffrey Gilbert and Aurèle Nicolet for flute; Peter Gellhorn and Antal Dorati for conducting; Klaus Billing, Hans-Erich Riebensahm, Brigitte Wild, and Malcolm Troup for piano; and Alfred Nieman, Wilfrid Mellers, and Richard Orton for composition. He has held teaching positions at Goldsmith's College and City University, London, and Falmouth Art School, England.

Mr. Gellhorn spent several years in India and is familiar with Indian classical music and the devotional music of the Hindu and Sufi traditions.

Since coming to the United States in 1982, he lived in Oregon, San Diego and Boulder, Colorado, before

moving to Hawaii in 1993. Currently a resident of Honolulu, Mr. Gellhorn teaches music and is active as choir director, flutist and pianist. He was choir director at the Unitarian Church of Honolulu from 2001 to 2007, and director of the Chancel and Oratorio Choirs at Central Union Church from 2009 to 2014. He is a regular attendee at Rodney Eichenberger's choral conducting workshops.



Ms. Julia Golding

Julia grew up in Sydney, Australia, where she completed her Bachelor of Music/Bachelor of Education (Honors) from the University of New South Wales. During these studies Julia discovered her passion for early childhood music. Consequently, in her honors year, she developed a specialized music curriculum for early childhood education.

Julia majored in voice and choral conducting. She studied choral conducting under Dr. Neil McEwan (lecturer in choral pedagogy at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music). Julia was the director of music at St. Paul's Anglican Church, Canberra, and directed the Australian Girls' Choir, the Australian Youth Choir, and the Sydney Children's Choir.

Julia worked as a chorister and soloist with many choirs in and around Sydney, Canberra, and Brisbane. Julia was a chorister with the Choir of the Aus-

tralian Brandenburg Orchestra, based in Sydney. Julia also sang with the Brisbane-based ensemble Fusion, directed by Debra Shearer-Dirie. In August 2014, the choir presented at the International Choral Symposium in South Korea.

In January 2015, Julia moved with her family to Hawai'i, and recently commenced as the director of the After School Program at St. Clement's School, Honolulu.



Dr. Alec Schumacker

Alec Schumacker is presently a lecturer in music at the University of Hawai'i—Mānoa, where he teaches the University Chorus, and choral director at Sacred Hearts Academy in Honolulu, where he teaches four curricular choirs and a music history course. He completed his Doctorate of Musical Arts degree in Choral Conducting at the University of Miami, where he was the co-conductor of Maelstrom Men's Ensemble and taught undergraduate courses in choral conducting and aural skills. A *cum laude* graduate with highest honors in music from Williams College, he has conducted in prestigious venues around the world including St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. He was previously the interim director of the Master Chorale of South Florida, where he prepared the chorus for performances with the Cleveland Orchestra and Andrea Bocelli.

An award-winning composer, Alec's choral music is published by Alliance Music Publications. His works and arrangements have been performed around the country by prestigious groups such as the Santa Fe Desert Chorale, the New World Symphony, the Amphion Men's Ensemble, the Symphony of the Americas, and the Frost Chorale. His doctoral dissertation, *Incorporating Popular Music into the Choral Classroom*, provides a guide on arranging popular music for choirs of any ability level.



Mr. Albert Tay

Director of the Kodály Academy of Music Singapore and conductor of semi-professional choir Schola Cantorum Singapore, Albert's numerous school and tertiary level choirs have been awarded top prizes and reviews in international festivals. He was previously artistic director of the International Festival Chorus Singapore and was assistant conductor for the Singapore Youth Choir, Singapore Lyric Opera, and the Kecskemét Festival Chorus.

As a composer his mentors include Cultural Medallion winners Dr. Kelly Tang, composer doyen, the late Mr. Leong Yoon Pin, and Young Artist Award Winner Dr. Zechariah Goh Toh Chai. Albert's works have been showcased in concerts, symposia, and competitions all over the world.

A recipient of significant music scholarships conferred by the National Arts Council of Singapore and *alma mater* Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts

(NAFA), Albert studied voice and conducting, graduating with distinctions as one of the top students of his cohort. He was conferred the prestigious International Kodály Society Scholarship for his Masters in Kodály Music Pedagogy at the Kodály Institute of the Liszt Academy of Music (Hungary) where he graduated "Excellent with Distinctions" and credits conducting doyen Professor Péter Erdei (Hungary) and Cultural Medallion winner Ms. Jennifer Tham (Singapore) as his primary influences in conducting.



HI-ACDA Core Board

Executive Committee

Miguel Felipe, President (2015–2017)

Director of Choral Activities & Assistant Professor of Music, University of Hawai'i–Mānoa

vacant, Vice President (2015–2017)

Alec Schumacker, President-elect (2015–2017)

Choir Director, Sacred Hearts Academy

Conductor, University Chorus, University of Hawai'i–Mānoa

John Alexander, Secretary (2015–2017)

Choir Director, 'Iolani School

Wanda Gereben, Treasurer (2015–2017)

Founder & Executive Director, *retired*, Pacific Rim Children's Chorus Festival

At-Large Members

Naomi Castro (2014–2016)

Choir Director, St. Andrew's Priory School

Conductor, Coro, Hawai'i Youth Opera Chorus

Soprano Section Leader, Lutheran Church of Honolulu Choir

Mark Conching (2014–2016)

Music Director, Sounds of Aloha Chorus

Pam DeBoard (2015–2017)

Executive Director & Conductor, HEARTS (Hawai'i Education of the Arts)

Keane Ishii (2014–2016)

Choir Director, Mililani High School

Director of Music, Holy Nativity Church

Vanessa Maldonado (2015–2017)

Junior in Music Education, Choral/General, University of Hawai'i–Mānoa

Susan McCreary Duprey (2014–2016)

Artistic Director, Windward Choral Society

Artistic Director, Kona Choral Society

Julianne Hiu (2015–2016)

Choir Director, Maryknoll School

Baritone Section Leader, Honolulu Blend Show Chorus

Justin Ka'upu (2015–2016)

Choir Director, Kapolei High School

Jeremy Wong (2014–2016)

Music Director, The Honolulu Chorale

Conductor, Cantilena, Hawai'i Youth Opera Chorus

Voice Instructor, University of Hawai'i–Mānoa

Bass Section Leader, Lutheran Church of Honolulu Choir

Interested in serving? Let us know:
President@HawaiiACDA.org.

Mahalo — Thank You

Thanks to those who made today possible

Our Speakers and Presenters

Mr. John Alexander

Dr. Karen Cooksey

Mr. Sangeet Gellhorn

Ms. Julia Golding

Dr. Alec Schumacker

Mr. Albert Tay

Ms. Naomi Casto, Program Chair

Mr. Justin Ka'upu, Mr. Keane Ishii, Vanessa Maldonado, and Dr. Pam DeBoard for arranging today's food

Ms. Wanda Gereben, registration

Dr. Jon Magnussen, our host

Chancellor Dr. Rocky Freitas and his staff at **UHWO**

Nola Nāhulu and our friends at **HYOC** for the beautiful tote bags

Dr. Chet-Yeng Loong and our friends at **NAfME/HMEA**

Ms. Kathy Crosier and our friends at the Hawai'i chapter of the **AGO**

The Core Board of HI-ACDA



A First Draft

Today represents HI-ACDA's first effort in creating a Professional Development Day for our community. We've worked hard to learn from local presenters like HMEA and from other choral presenters like ACDA state chapters. But, inevitably, we don't get everything perfect the first time.

At the end of the day, **an evaluation form will be offered**. Please take your time to complete this carefully and thoughtfully. Your **feedback will be the single strongest influence** in determining how Professional Development evolves for 2016. Indeed, it was your thoughts at our 2014 Round Up that created today.

If you'd rather share your thoughts in person, by phone, or in another form, please email Miguel at President@HawaiiACDA.org or grab a Core member. We want to hear from you.

Thank you for joining us.

HI-ACDA'S 2015 ROUND UP!

Saturday, September 26, 3:00—8:00 PM
Sacred Hearts Academy, Honolulu

Public Concert at 7:00 PM

Round Up is a chance for choral directors from around the state to gather and greet each other at the start of the new year. This year, we'll gather at Sacred Hearts Academy in Kaimukī for a very special afternoon and evening. Our special guest, all the way from Oklahoma, is ACDA national executive director **Dr. Tim Sharp**. Dr. Sharp will join us for the afternoon and share his vision for ACDA along with information about resources available to members. Then, after a delicious, free, home-cooked dinner, we'll enjoy a short concert in the Sacred Hearts Chapel featuring Dr. Sharp's own *High, Lonesome Bluegrass Mass*. RSVP when HI-ACDA emails and don't miss it.

Nā Leo Hou

Hawai'i's All-State Choral Festival

February 11—13, 2016

HI-ACDA has teamed up with the Hawai'i Youth Opera Chorus (HYOC) to develop Nā Leo Hou. The festival brings together the best of HYOC's Lōkahi festival and HI-ACDA's Ho'olōkahi festival. The event will include individual school performances, a mass choir with expert clinician, non-ranked adjudication, and plenty of opportunities for students to have fun.

For more information, see the festival's producer, Alec Schumacker, or email: alexander.r.schumacker@gmail.com.



e hīmeni kākou

The Annual Collegiate Choral Festival of Hawai'i

February 19–20, 2016

E Hīmeni Kākou is HI-ACDA's longest running festival and brings together about 200 collegiate singers each year. The fest features a guest clinician—Maestro Tesfa Wondemagegnehu of Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 2016—for a series of on-campus clinics, mass choir rehearsals, and a public concert. Singers also enjoy the chance to hear each college's choirs sing several selections of their own.

For more information, see the festival's producer, Miguel Felipe, or email: mfelipe@hawaii.edu.



A project of the Hawai'i Chapter of the
American Choral Directors Association

Conductor Connections is an ongoing endeavor of HI-ACDA designed to facilitate interaction between visiting choral directors and local choral directors. While there's seldom a shortage of visitors around Hawai'i, this program helps actually *connect* with them. Check your HI-ACDA e-newsletters to know when the next guest is coming. Then, just RSVP and join us for dinner, pūpū and drinks, or another social event. Past guests have included Rodney Eichenberger (FSU), Gabriel Crouch (Princeton), and Christian Grases (USC).

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