



THE DOROTHY F. SCHMIDT COLLEGE OF ARTS & LETTERS
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC
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September 22, 2009

Dear Colleague:

It is an honor to invite your students to our Third Annual Honor Choral "Side By Side" Festival. With the 2009 – 2010 academic year well on its way, I hope you are already experiencing a promising academic year for choral music in your school. Please, do us the honor of welcoming your best, mixed, octet (or quartet!) in your choral program to our festival on November 12 – 14, 2009. The event will culminate with the "Side-by-Side Festival Chorus" performing Michael Haydn's *Regina Coeli* and Franz Joseph Haydn's *Te Deum* (in C major for the Empress Marie Therese) for SATB chorus, soli, and orchestra.

The three-day festival schedule involves rehearsals of the two works, a recital hour presented by FAU graduate and undergraduate voice students, performances by FAU's choral ensembles, and of course, the Festival Chorus. For your assistance, please find a detailed schedule and cost. The fee covers a Festival T-shirt, lunch and dinner on Friday in the University Commons (an all you can eat buffet), dinner on Saturday, and a practice CD for each student.

Please, return the attached registration form via e-mail or hard copy by October 9. The student fees should be postmarked by October 15. In addition, please follow your school's chaperone policy to assure that your students are supervised during down times or in emergency situations. Information of scores will be sent next week as we are trying to find the most cost efficient. We will use the *Te Deum* found on CPDL and will include a link in our correspondence. The *Regina Coeli* will, however, most likely need to be purchased. The practice CDs will be mailed after we receive your registration form and fees. Should you require hotel accommodations, our office will be happy to assist you in finding a location near our campus.

We hope that you will join us in continuing this choral rehearsal and performance partnership between talented high school students and our Florida Atlantic University choral students. To those of you who have participated in previous years, we thank you for your support and the wonderful students you have shared with us. We certainly hope to welcome greater numbers and continue the enthusiasm. Because of balance issue with the size of the orchestra, please make sure that initially you limit your numbers to your very best SATB quartet or octet. If you want to bring more than 8 students, please list them as alternates and we will let you know of the numbers as we get close to the festival. We want as many students as possible but the size of the orchestra is a reality that we cannot overlook.

Once again, thank you for your consideration to participate our Third Annual High School Honor Festival and assist the area of choral and vocal studies at FAU in its strive to promote choral excellence and to make a difference. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Stacie Rossow, Associate Director of Choral and Vocal Studies and the coordinator of the High School Festival at rossow@fau.edu or (561) 297-3823. If you leave a voicemail, please indicate a good call back time. Remember that attached to this email is the schedule and registration form. Remember, it is not necessary to wait until the deadline to submit. We would love to hear from you sooner rather than later! ☺

Best wishes,

Patricia P. Fleitas

Dr. Patricia P. Fleitas, Professor
Choral and Vocal Studies, Director

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