



THE DOROTHY F. SCHMIDT COLLEGE OF ARTS & LETTERS

SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

CHORAL AND VOCAL STUDIES

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Dear Colleagues,

Through the beginning of another academic year, I consider that we, you, and I, are graced with another opportunity to experience teaching what we love to wonderful students. Here at FAU, we are off to a great start. We have welcomed a very nice undergraduate class and three wonderful graduate teaching assistants in the MM/choral conducting program. What a wonderful year awaits us!

One of our annual highlights is the Georgina Dieter Dennis High School Honor Choral Festival on November 4, 2022. Will you and your students join us? I know that this project has “recruiting” written all over it yet, when I write this annual letter my perspective is quite different. I reach out because the joy of working with your students, experiencing/offering a sense of community, and ultimately performing with them in hopes that they go back home further inspired, is at the core of this event.

In its 15th year, this Festival will be a one-day event on **Friday, November 4, 2022**, culminating with a side-by-side concert featuring the Mixed Honor Festival Chorus and the Treble Honor Festival Chorus which was expanded to include 7th and 8th grade students in 2021. These ensembles will perform David Rossow’s **Mass for Treble Voices** and Randall Thompson’s **A Feast of Praise** with brass ensemble, respectively conducted by Stacie L. Rossow and Patricia P. Fleitas. Festival scores will be available for purchase through Beethoven & Co. or from the composer’s website. They are prepared to fulfill your orders. Rehearsal tracks will also be available in early October.

Moreover, students can take advantage of a 30-minute private voice lesson/coaching with available FAU voice faculty. The deadline to register students for this portion is the same as the festival registration. Below is the criterion for student eligibility.

- Junior or senior status
- Selected by respective director
- Two pieces (all original scores unless on public domain)
- Should already know the selections as this is more of a coaching.
- One to three eligible students will be selected by the FAU voice faculty to perform a solo piece at the festival’s choral concert. This performance offers the student(s) the opportunity to partially fulfill the audition requirements for FAU and eligibility to be considered for a four-year FAU scholarship as a music major.

You can access the registration form at (<http://fau.edu/music/chorusfestival.php>). Please, submit the form by October 20, 2022. The student fees are expected the day of the event (please do not mail). To ensure that your students are supervised during down times or in emergency situations, we ask that all schools follow their respective chaperone policy. In addition, the university is requiring a signed release waiver for each student which will be sent to you with your invoice for you to distribute. The student waiver will be collected at check in or submitted digitally.

The attached brochure contains all pertinent information. You will discover that it is unique, affordable, informative, and a LOT OF FUN! On behalf of students and professors here at FAU's Choral and Vocal Studies, thank you for your consideration of this invitation. Know that we are enthusiastically awaiting your participation. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Stacie Rossow, Associate Director of Choral and Vocal Studies and coordinator of the High School Festival at srossow@fau.edu or (561) 297-4230. If you leave a voicemail, please indicate a good time for her to return your call. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Would you please consider extending this invitation to your students for this year's festival? The number of students we can accommodate will depend on the number of students each school would like to bring. Please, keep us posted on your potential plans so that we can welcome as many students as possible. Don't be shy! It would be great to have a space issue! Usually, we like to have a minimum of, but not limited to, eight students per school for each of the festival ensembles but again, communicate with us and we will do our best to accommodate as many students as possible.

As always, our very best wishes to you and your students. If you have participated in previous FAU Festivals, let's reunite, and if you have not been able to yet, offer us the opportunity to work with your students and welcome you to our campus.

Patricia P. Fleitas

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