

Dear Colleagues,

The Ohio Choral Directors Association is pleased to announce the 2023 Ohio Choral Directors Association Treble Honor Choir, to be held at Capital University during the OCDA Professional Conference on Monday June 26, 2023.. Music teachers and community children's chorus directors who are members of OCDA and/or OMEA are invited to recommend their best treble singers who have just completed grades 4-8.



This extraordinary choir will feature 120 committed and advanced singers from our state. The combination of these wonderful children and the excellent teaching of our guest conductor will create an experience your singers will remember for years to come.



Guest Conductor Robyn Lana

Interpreting choral music for diverse audiences in a way that is relevant to young people while maintaining the highest standards of music education and performance sums up the work of Robyn Reeves Lana.

When not leading the Cincinnati Youth Choir, Ensemble-in-Residence at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, over the 30 years, Mrs. Lana has served as conductor and clinician across the United States and at internationally acclaimed venues such as The Forbidden City Concert Hall (Beijing), The World Expo (Milan), St. Peter's Basilica (Vatican City), Minatomirai Hall (Yokohama). Internationally she has served as a clinician in Malacca, Malaysia; Singapore; Italy;

Ireland; and China. Closer to home, she has been a featured guest conductor at Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center and Cincinnati's Music Hall. She has served as clinician or guest conducted state and regional choral events in over 25 states. Lana has served on the choral faculty at Xavier University, has been a guest professor in the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music's choral department, and is currently a visiting professor on the choral faculty at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio .

Lana is the editor of a choral series with Santa Barbara Music Publishing. Her book, *Voices in Harmony*, published in 2017, is a collaborative effort that celebrates many successful philosophies in choral education. She also is also published in *Chorister Guild's The Chorister*, Chamber Music America's *CMA Matters*, and ACDA's *Choral Journal* for which she also served as guest editor of the of three issues.

Achieving an extensive list of orchestral and operatic repertoire for children and praise from collaborating conductors including Craig Hella Johnson, John Adams, Louis Langrée, John Morris Russell, Robert Porco, Marcus Huber, James Conlon, Earl Rivers and Mark Gibson among others, Lana regularly prepares her choirs for collaborations with the Cincinnati Symphony, the Cincinnati Pops, the Cincinnati May Festival, Cincinnati Opera, and CCM choirs and orchestras. She prepared CYC for two Telarc label recordings with the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra under the direction of the late Maestro Erich Kunzel.

Nationally, Lana has served ACDA as Children's Choir and Community Youth Repertoire and Standards Chair and Chair of ACDA Advocacy and Collaboration. She currently serves on the Chorus America Board of Directors.

Robyn Reeves Lana earned her bachelor and masters degrees in music education with a cognate in voice and a concentration in choral conducting from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. She holds Level III Orff-Schulwerk Certification and has done focused study on children's choirs at Butler University with Henry Leck.

Ms. Lana's work has earned many awards including CCM's Distinguished Alumna Award (2012), a gold medal in the World Choir Games (2012) placing first in the United States, the American Prize for Choral Performance (2015), the Chorus America ASCAP Award for Adventurous Programming (2016), Chorus America Award for Education and Community Engagement (2018), and Cincinnati *CityBeat's* Best Local Vocal Arts Group (2015 and 2017). Most recently she was celebrated in the book *Imagineers • Impresarios • Inventors: Cincinnati's Arts and the POWER OF HER* which tells the inspiring stories of the formidable influence of women in the arts throughout Cincinnati's dynamic history.

Nomination procedure

Online nominations will be accepted until March 17, 2023. You may nominate up to 8 singers using the online nomination form at <https://forms.gle/eaCoq4EZnvaLKKG8>

Please make sure you have a valid phone number and current parent email address for each singer you nominate. A helpful parent letter is available for download on the OCDA website.

<https://www.ohiocda.org/conferenceparent/childrenschoir/>

Please rank your singer in the order in which you want them to be considered. This will help us select the singers from each school that will be most ready for this intensive experience.

After your nominations have been submitted, parents will receive a congratulations email with the link to register their child after April 1st. If you have questions at any time, please email ocdachc@gmail.com.

Chaperones

- OCDA Children's Honor Choir will provide chaperones for this event.
- Parents who would like to stay with their children should register their singer as a commuter and then secure off-site housing.

Deadlines

Nominations will be accepted: February 15 – March 15, 2022.

All singer registrations must be complete by April 15, 2022.

Detailed information will be sent via email directly to parents and teachers after May 1, 2022.

Music preparation

Participating students will begin preparations for the choir in two **required** satellite rehearsals held around the state. Dates and locations of satellite rehearsals will be published on the OCDA website as soon as they are available. Please email ocdachc@gmail.com if you have any questions or concerns about the satellite rehearsals.

Without the support from the music teachers and children's chorus directors from Ohio, OCDA would not be able to offer opportunities such as this to our young singers. Please support this event by recommending your most outstanding singers and pass this invitation along to colleagues and friends!

Thank you for your support of choral music in the state of Ohio and for OCDA!

Sincerely,

OCDA Children's Honor Choir Team

Michael Grimm – OCDA Children's Honor Choir Chair

Anna Ehret – OCDA Children's Honor Choir On-Site Coordinator