



The American Choral Directors Association  
of Ohio

# OHIO A.C.D.A. NEWS

Vol. 2, No 1



October, 1969

## Ohio Composer Series Will Be Published

The Ohio A.C.D.A. is sponsoring a Ohio Choral Composer Series of selections to be published in conjunction with World Library Publications Inc. of Cincinnati. One composition will be chosen each year and a \$100 award granted the composer. The piece will be published and performed by the State Honors Choir at the summer convention. The rules are listed below.

1. The composer must be an Ohio composer, either native born, or present resident; 2. The work must be an original composition, not an arrangement of a hymn tune or folk tune; 3. The composition may be for any combination of voices SSA, TTBB, SATB, Equal Voices, etc.; 4. The work may be for voices either accompanied or unaccompanied; 5. The work should be from 3 to 5 minutes in duration; 6. The text may be Sacred or Secular; 7. The text may be an original one.

8. The text may also be from any other source — provided it is in the Public Domain, free of copyright infringements, or includes written permission from present copyright holders; 9. The work may be designed for a choir of any age level. The judges will be impressed by the union of the music to the text rather than the degree of difficulty or simplicity of the music alone; 10. A composer may submit more than one work, but each work must be submitted separately; 11. The work must be copied in ink on regular manuscript paper. Pencil copies or reproductions will be rejected.

12. The contest closes Dec. 25, 1969, and no manuscript postmarked after this date will be considered; 13. The winner will be notified in April, 1970. All compositions will be returned provided

that a return, self-addressed stamped envelope is enclosed with the manuscript; 14. The decision of the judges will be final. The judges

reserve the right not to award a prize, if in their opinion, none of the works submitted merit such an

(Continued on Page 6)

## Applying Premiers 1st Ohio Honors Choir



The Ohio A.C.D.A. convention was the setting for the first annual Ohio Honors Choir. The 60-voice choir was composed of selected teenage school or church choir participants. The group rehearsed from early morning until late each night beginning on Sunday afternoon, July 27 and culminating with a public appearance at the convention on Tuesday evening.

The music studied by the choir was: *O Admirable Commencium*, J. Handl, Mercury MC 67, eight-part chorus; *With My Whole Heart*, D. Blakely, Bourne 873; *Lift Up Your Heads*, H. Shutz, C. F. Peters, 6592; *Sing Ye To The Lord*, J. S. Bach, C. F. Peters, Double Choir; *Father William*, I. Fine, M. Witmark, 5W3182; *Las Agachades*, A.

(Continued on Page 6)



## Editor's Corner

By Ernest L. Hisey

My congratulations to President George, Larry Tagg, Ron Kenreich and Sam Shie for their labors in organizing our most successful convention thus far. We had over 85 people in one session and averaged about 50.

In this issue is printed a listing of all officers and the state board for your reference. Also included is a copy of the membership form. If *you've* already paid for this year, how about obtaining a membership fee from a *new member* and send it to Larry Tagg. A small bit of effort from each one will give us tremendous growth! Please note that the February issue will be the last sent to delinquent members.

Regional, District, and Committee Chairmen! We need your active and prompt response if we're to publish an effective NEWS. Some regional chairmen indicate that District Chairmen are very lax in responding. We need everyone's help and cooperation! Each region includes three districts and many districts include several counties.

### OHIO A.C.D.A. NEWS

Official organ of the American Choral Directors Association of Ohio. Mailing address, Avon Lake High School, Avon Lake, Ohio. Vice Pres. Ernest Hisey; Editor. Oct.-Feb./April.

## Nearly 100 Attend 3rd State Convention



The annual Ohio A.C.D.A. convention was held at Capital University in Columbus with members registering on Sunday, July 27 and clinic sessions from Monday until Wednesday noon.

Topics of the sessions included "The Smaller Church Choir," "Fundamentals of Voice Training for the Choral Program," "Musicals in the High School," "Modern Music in the Church," "Rehearsal of the Vocal Chamber Ensemble," "Sounding Board," "Choral Music of Ohio Composers," and additional reading sessions.

Clinicians included John Van

Nice, Dale Gilliland, Martha Wurtz, Richard Dean, Byron Griest, Jerry Maxwell, Dick Wesp, Maurice Casey, Calvin Rogers, Wm. Appling, and several Ohio composers. The total of approximately 100 in attendance includes the clinicians, attending registrants, and commercial exhibitors.

**PAID YOUR DUES??**  
Check the form on Page 5

### OHIO A.C.D.A. PRESIDENTS

John Van Nice—1970-1972  
Findlay College  
George E. Wilson—1968-1970  
Wilmington High School  
Ernest L. Hisey—1967-1968  
Avon Lake High School  
Hamer Mitchell—1966-1967  
Mansfield High School  
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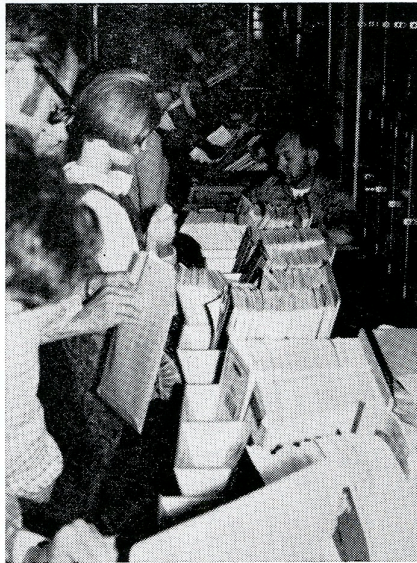


## Commercial Exhibits at Convention

Thirteen exhibitors purchased space for display use in the halls outside the convention meeting rooms. They are listed below alphabetically.

C. & E. Sales Co., Urbana; Chantry Music Press, Springfield; Collegiate Robes, Bachman Co., Columbus; Coyle Music Center, Columbus; Educators Music, Lakewood; Holt, Rinehart, Winston, Avon Lake.

Howard Early Music, Cincinnati; Magnetic Studios, Columbus; Robert Rollins Blazors, Urbana; Stanton Sheet Music, Columbus; World Library Publications, Cincinnati; Y.E.S. Funds, Newark.



## State Board and Nominating Committees Meet in February

The A.C.D.A. State Board will meet on Saturday, Jan. 10. Watch your O. M. E. A. schedule for the time and room. District chairmen are asked to also meet with the Board.

On Saturday, Jan. 10 at 7:30 a.m. the nominating committee of past presidents will meet. The President-Elect, Secretary, N.E., S.W., and S.C. Regional Chairmen must be elected this spring.

## Ohio Regional Activity

Three Regional Chairmen have responded with plans at printing deadline.

**EAST CENTRAL**—Wm. Hamilton, *Chairman*. Plans are being made for a reading session on Nov. 7. Members in Districts 7, 8, and 9 please contact Bill to offer your help.

**SOUTHWEST** — Pat Schramm, *Chairman*. Pat has issued a newsletter on Sept. 25 to members in Districts 10, 11, and 12. Regional planning meeting for an A.C.D.A. Winter Clinic will be held Oct. 24 at the O.M.E.A. Clinic in Princeton H.S. A talk session for A.C.D.A. members will be held at the conclusion of the days events.

*Please Attend*

**NORTHEAST** — D. Russell, *Chairman*. Plans are afoot for a Winter reading-clinic session to be held Southeast of Cleveland in late February for Districts 4, 5, and 6.

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## Artistic Consonants

By LAWRENCE E. TAGG

Diction in solo or group singing must go considerably beyond simple clarity. Adding music to a text, throughout most of the history of music, has principally served the purpose of heightening textual expression and effect.

Assuming that the singing performer must at least equal the public speaker, the oral poet, and the actor, in effectively presenting poetry and drama, we certainly cannot accept more conversational diction. Close observation of expressive speech reveals that the consonant is the aspect of diction that distinguishes emotional effect. Clarity in itself is merely narrative; even so, the narrative we present on the stage must be much more impressive than that of ordinary conversation.

Here are some practical applications:

Singers often are asked to read the text aloud as a help in understanding its meaning. Why limit them by allowing the reading in a monotone or conversational tone? The text should be read aloud as it would be spoken in performance: generally, consonants will be stressed on words and syllables which need emphasis. With this simple exercise, you and your singers will quickly discover that they naturally use the correct kind of consonant-stress — they do not attempt to make the vowel take all the weight of emphasis.

In speaking or singing "Let down the bars, O death," is it good textual expression or good singing technique to push harder on certain vowels? Of course not. The emphasis will naturally fall on these consonants: Let Down the Bars, O Death. An adolescent with average sensitivity will speak this way, with your encouragement, and it should then carry over into his singing.

Now how do you stress consonants in singing? They cannot all be treated alike, for obvious physical reasons. There is no way to make consonants such as B, D, L, M, or N harder or more distinct by pushing the tongue harder or

compressing the lips harder than in ordinary good diction. For consonants with this characteristic, you must increase stress by *lengthening* the sound, as a good speaker does.

For consonants which can produce a sustained tone, such as L, M, N, V, it is fairly easy to lengthen them. The trick is to begin with such consonants *before* the beat; otherwise the vowel will be late and the rhythm erratic. But notice that young singers often do this naturally; what we have to do is make it a conscious technique.

Consonants which cannot be sung as B, D, G, K, P, T, must be *held* momentarily and then let go. This process compresses the breath and then lets the sound begin with increased vigor.

At first, and in some cases always, it is helpful to conduct these lengthened or held consonants.

We can, in a few minutes, achieve real drama in our phrase, "Let down the bars, O death," without disrupting the continuous flow of breath and vowel tone we have been cultivating. Consonants which are merely stuck in between vowels are disruptive because they interrupt the smooth exhalation necessary to tone and phrasing. Of course none of this works . . . *nothing* works in singing . . . without proper diaphragmatic breath support. If there is anything wrong with diction, look first to the breath which may have enough support for vowel tone but cannot support the effort of meaningful consonants.

Following the achievement of vowel resonance, the next step to-

ward vitality and emotional power is the cultivation of expressive consonants. (And the next step, which cannot be included here, is the timing which distinguishes artistic speech). We first teach singers to sing on the vowel and to make consonants quickly, but remember this objective is only relative to cultivating the bel canto style; it is properly limited to a very small segment of musical expression. Vocal technique must expand with the increased range of your repertoire styles.

Mr. Tagg is Choral Director at the University of Dayton and state treasurer of Ohio ACDA. He is an OMEA adjudicator and has served as S.W. Region ACDA Chairman.

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### A.C.D.A. Conventions

A.C.D.A. will chair some sessions at the M.E.N.C. conventions this year. All future A.C.D.A. conventions at the Divisional and National levels will be held independently rather than in conjunction with the M.E.N.C. dates and locations as in the past.

National A.C.D.A. Convention — 1971 — March 5-7, Kansas City, North Central Division A.C.D.A. — 1970, March 19-21, Chicago Sherman House Hotel.



### President's Views

By George E. Wilson

After the final session of the convention at Capital University this past July, several of us gathered for a summary and for making initial plans for the convention next June. We all agreed that the convention was the finest we have had thus far. Many attendants offered very fine comments concerning the overall program as well as specific offerings.

Several individuals should be singled out for their fine work in organizing their part of the convention program. Ernie Hisey made several contacts for exhibitors and as a result we had over 15 exhibits. Ron Kenreich spent several hours in arranging the facilities for us at Capital University.

Sam Shie is to be commended for his efforts in organizing the first Honors Choir. This outstanding feature of the convention was well received and we believe every student benefitted in some way from this experience. Due to the tremendous amount of work related to this project, Sam will have several aids in planning for the 1970 Choir.

I would like to emphasize the choral music reading session to be held at the O.M.E.A. convention on

### Miscellaneous Notes

Send any address corrections to the National Office and Loretta Conrad, Ohio A.C.D.A. Secretary, 29750 Detroit Rd., Westlake, 44091.

Want to help A.C.D.A.? Pres. George Wilson needs workers. Drop him a note.

We suggest you cut the list of officers from this issue and keep for handy reference.

Newly appointed are N.E. Region, Chairman, Douglas Russell of Sheffield Lake and Dist. 6, John Roberts of Kent, and District 4 chairman, George Stone, of Brecksville.

Need extra copies of NEWS and membership blanks to distribute at a meeting? Write the president and get some new members with those materials.

Wm. Hamilton, E.C. Regional Chairman, has been appointed director of Canton Civic Opera Chorus. First production Nov. 14-15 at Timken H. S.

New District 11 Chairman is Robert H. Walsh RD No. 3, Eaton, Ohio 45320.

A.C.D.A. of Ohio is "in the black" financially. We have frequently been operating with a really empty vault, but Mr. Tagg indicates a bit brighter treasurer's report is in the offing.

**Patronize Advertisers Who Support The Choral Art**

Thursday, January 8, 1970 at the Cleveland Sheraton. The session, sponsored by A.C.D.A. of Ohio, will be chaired by our President-Elect, John Van Nice. Educators Music of Lakewood will provide the music.

Finally, if you have not yet paid your dues for the 1969-1970 year, this is your reminder.

### O.M.E.A. CONVENTION CHORAL SESSIONS

On Jan. 8, 9, 10 the O.M.E.A. State Convention will be held in Cleveland at the Sheraton Hotel on Public Square. The Ohio A.C.D.A. will organize the choral reading session to be held from 8-10 p.m. on Thursday evening. It will cover all types of music and also include Junior High selections. Educators Music of Lakewood will provide music for the Cleveland reading session.

Planned sessions of interest to choral directors during the O.M.E.A. convention include "The Solo Voice," "Rehearsal of Electronic and Aleatory Music," "Vocal-Instrumental Chamber Ensemble," "Voice Class and Ensemble," "Inter Arts Relationships," "Jazz Mass and Motet," "Teaching More Than Performance," "The Contemporary Scene," "Performance Styles," "Adult Community Groups," and at least four choirs in performance. Reading sessions for all music areas will occur simultaneously on Thursday evening and will replace the usual Thursday evening sessions.

**Attend Jan. 8 Reading Session in Cleveland**

## APPLICATION for MEMBERSHIP in American Choral Directors Association

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### IMPORTANT NOTICE

Please use this form to renew your membership or to secure for us a new member. No mailing to delinquent members after the Feb. issue of the NEWS.



## OHIO CHORAL EVENTS OCT. - NOV. - DEC.

- Oct. 19 — Cincinnati Conservatory — Brubeck Contata.
- Oct. 19 — Canton, Stark Kent Choir and Malone College Choir Festival of Faith — Director, Don Murray (A.C.D.A.).
- Oct. 24 — OMEA Clinic, Princeton High School — M. Casey, Choral Clinician (A.C.D.A.).
- Oct. 25 — 5th Annual Choral Symposium, North Olmsted and Avon Lake Choirs at Bay Village. Don Simmons, Director (A.C.D.A.).
- Oct. 28 — Akron Armory — 8:30 Royal Choral Society — W. Morris, Director.
- Nov. 8 — High school choirs from Dayton Fairborn, Cincinnati Wyoming, Wilmington high schools in concert, 8:00 P.M. at Fairborn.
- Nov. 16 — "Carmina Burana" — University of Dayton Choir with High School Choirs.
- Nov. 21 — Oberlin College Chorus — Warner Hall — 8:30 H. Simons, Director (A.C.D.A.).
- Nov. 21-23 — Capital University Chapel Choir — Director, S. Klyce — On Tour, Fremont, Marion, Avon Lake H.S.
- Nov. 22 — Ohio State University Chorale — Director, M. Casey (A.C.D.A.), N. Olmsted H. S.
- Nov. 22-25 — Cincinnati Conservatory Operas.
- Dec. 2 — Ohio University — University Chorus, Men's Glee Club, University Singers, Women's Glee Club — Directors Wickstrom and M. Wurtz (A.C.D.A.).
- Dec. 5 — Cincinnati Conservatory — Christmas Choral Concert, Chamber Choir and Chorale
- Dec. 5-7 — Capital University Chapel Choir — Columbus Concerts — S. Klyce, Director (A.C.D.A.).
- Dec. 7 — Cincinnati Conservatory — Festival of Carols, Glee Clubs, — University Singers.
- Dec. 7 — Heidelberg College — Messiah — 2:30 — F. Ohl, Director (A.C.D.A.).
- Dec. 7 — Oberlin Musical Union — Finney Chapel — 8:00 — H. Simons (A.C.D.A.) Handel and Bruckner.
- Dec. 8 — Christmas Concert, University of Dayton Choir — L. Tagg, Director (A.C.D.A.).
- Dec. 17 — University Circle Singers — Kulas Hall — 8:30 P.M. — Wm. Appling, Director.
- Jan. 15 — Oberlin — Finney Chapel —

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## Honors Choir

(Continued from Page 1)

Copland, Boosey and Hawkes; Kyrie, D. Erb, unpublished, percussion, piano, and electronic tape.

An enthusiastic audience attended the concert at the Toledo Room of Capital University Music Conservatory. Pat Schramm was the accompanist.

Sam Shie of Hamilton as chairman is already making plans for next year's choir and many changes are being discussed. Dates are now being arranged for auditions to be held in each region under the direction of Regional and District Chairmen. Rehearsal will then begin in early spring. Only A.C.D.A. members may submit applicants for membership.

8:30 — New York Pro Musica.

Jan. 24 — Cincinnati Conservatory — "Creation" Haydn — M. Rudolf, Director.

Jan. 31 — Annual Avon Lake Larger Choral Works Conference — Columbus Eastmoor, Parma Valley Forge, Avon Lake Choirs. Works by Shutz, Bernstein, Vivaldi, Dello Joio — Director, Calvin Rogers (A.C.D.A.).

## Composer Series Will Be Published

(Continued from Page 1)  
award and publication.

15. All manuscripts should be submitted to:

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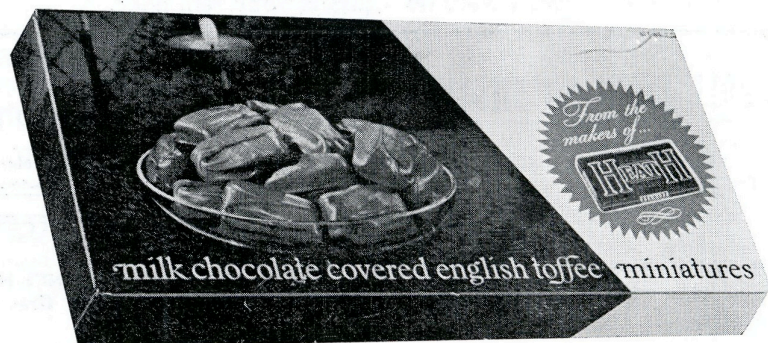
16. All care will be taken of the manuscripts, however no responsibility will be assumed for works which are lost or damaged.

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A chairman has been appointed to coordinate the exchange of larger choral works scores. The chairman is John Wrabel, 54 Meadow Dr., Berea, Ohio 44017. Contact John with a list of scores you have available to loan out, and also compositions you wish to borrow.

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