

6/25/18

Alleluia

MANY VOICES + ONE SONG

Alleluia Conference

July 17-20, 2018

DAY I

Tuesday, July 17

10:00 – 12:45 Registration, McCrary Lobby

10:45 – 11:30 NEW: Welcome Mixer

McCrary, Room 114

12:45 – 2:15 Worship led by Randall Bradley
Reading Session I: Joseph Martin
Rejoice, Give Thanks, and Sing

Truett, Powell Chapel

2:15 – 2:30 Transition

2:30 – 3:30 Breakout I (10)
Conducting: Joshua Habermann
Putting Score Study into Action in the Choral Rehearsal

McCrary, Meadows Recital Hall

Organ: Jack Mitchener
Organ Repertoire – Old & New
Repeated Friday, 8:30-9:30

McCrary, Jones Concert Hall Stage

Children's Choir: Michael Burkhardt
Hearts, Hands, and Voices – Working with the Whole Person
Repeated Wednesday, 8:00-9:00

McCrary, Room 114

Piano: James Stevens
Chord Chemistry 101

McCrary, Room 118

Special Session: Benjamin Harlan
The Composer's Journey
Repeated Wednesday, 8:00-9:00

McCrary, Room 131

Conducting Basics: David Music
The Beginning Church Choir Director
Repeated Friday, 9:45-10:45

McCrary, Room 133

Spirituals: Stephanie Boddie
Spirituals and the Souls of Black Folk
Repeated Friday, 8:30-9:30

Truett, Room 113

PIE Talk: Dawn Jantsch, Joseph Martin, and Tom Tillman
As I See It: Where Church Music is Heading

Truett, Room 114

Panel Discussion: Nathan Edwards, Carol Holck, and John McDaniel
Building a Strong Ministry Team – Best Practices

Truett, Room 115

Finale: Ben Johansen
Introduction to Notation Software

Moody Memorial Library, Crouch Music Library, 3rd Floor

3:30 – 4:00 Break

4:00 – 5:00 Breakout II (10)
Conducting: Joshua Habermann
Latin American Choral Performance
Organ: Jack Mitchener
Organ Master Class

McCrary, Meadows Recital Hall

McCrary, Jones Concert Hall Stage

Children's Choir: Michael Burkhardt <i>Working with the Child Voice</i>	McCrary, Room 114
Special Session: Benjamin Harlan <i>Let's Sing! Congregational Song – Resources and Ideas</i> Repeated Friday, 8:30-9:30	McCrary, Room 131
Piano: James Stevens <i>From Chords to Accompaniments</i>	McCrary, Room 133
Cantata: Joseph Martin <i>Christmas Dreams & Rhapsody in Bluegrass</i>	McCrary, Room 118
PIE Talk: Lynne Gackle, Maria Monteiro, and Terry Taylor <i>Engaging Children with Music – Why It Matters</i>	Truett, Room 107
Panel Discussion: David Elder, Russell Farnell, Chris Pillsbury, and Carol Scherer <i>Managing Discouragement and Avoiding Burnout</i>	Truett, Room 113
Black Sacred Music: Horace Maxile <i>On the Interactions Between Black Sacred Music and Western Concert Forms</i> Repeated Wednesday, 8:00-9:00	Truett, Room 114
Worship Planning: Terre Johnson <i>Writing Materials for Worship</i> Repeated Wednesday, 2:30-3:30	Truett, Room 115
5:15 – 6:00 Concert: The San Antonio Youth Chorale	Truett, Powell Chapel
6:00 – 7:30 Dinner on your own	
7:30 – 9:00 NEW: Evening Worship Opportunities Option 1: Evening Worship Gathering with Worship Lab Option 2: Evening Contemplative Worship Gathering	Common Grounds Coffee Elliston Chapel

DAY II: CHILDREN'S CHOIR DAY
Wednesday, July 18

8:00 – 9:00 Breakout III (11) Organ: Jack Mitchener <i>Healthy Playing Techniques for the Organist</i>	McCrary, Markham Organ Studio
Children's Choir: Michael Burkhardt <i>Hearts, Hands, and Voices – Working with the Whole Person</i> Repeat of Tuesday, 2:30-3:30	McCrary, Room 114
Children's Choir: Terrie Preskitt-Brown <i>Amp It Up @ Music Camp</i>	McCrary, Room 118
Children's Choir: Terry Taylor <i>Fruit of the Spirit – Older Children</i>	McCrary, Jones Concert Hall Stage
Pre-School Children's Choir: Susan Eernisse <i>First Things First: Covering the Basics in Preschool Music</i> Repeated Wednesday, 4:00-5:00	McCrary, Meadows Recital Hall
Special Session: Benjamin Harlan <i>The Composer's Journey</i> Repeat of Tuesday, 2:30-3:30	McCrary, Room 131
Piano: James Stevens <i>Anywhere from Here</i>	McCrary, Room 133
Conducting: Joshua Habermann <i>Music Literacy in the Choral Rehearsal</i>	Truett, Powell Chapel
Black Sacred Music: Horace Maxile <i>On the Interactions Between Black Sacred Music and Western Concert Forms</i> Repeat of Tuesday, 4:00-5:00	Truett, Room 113
Youth Choir: Jonathan Rodgers <i>Culture and Choir: Friends or Foes?</i>	Truett, Room 114
Choir: Randall Bradley <i>Building Your Choir Intergenerationally</i> Repeated Friday, 9:45-10:45	Truett, Room 115
9:00 – 9:15 Transition	

9:15 – 10:15	Reading Session II: David Schwoebel <i>The Music of Spring</i>	Truett, Powell Chapel
	Children's Choir: Michael Burkhardt <i>Repertoire Selection – Where We're At, Where We've Been, Where We're Going</i>	McCrary, Room 114
	Children's Choir: Terrie Preskitt-Brown <i>Plan the Work - Work the Plan</i>	McCrary, Room 118
	Children's Choir: Terry Taylor <i>Fruit of the Spirit – Younger Children</i>	Jones Concert Hall Stage
	Pre-School Children's Choir: Susan Eernisse <i>Sing in a Circle</i>	McCrary, Meadows Recital Hall
10:15 – 10:30	Break	
10:30 – 11:30	Worship: <i>Delighted to Be Here</i> led by Adam Cogliano and Baylor Church Music Students; Joel Gregory, preacher	Truett, Powell Chapel
11:30 – 1:00	Lunch	
11:45-12:45	(Optional: 4 Lunch Discussions; reservations required, limit 20 each)	
1:00 – 2:15	Reading Session III: Elaine Hagenberg, Benjamin Harlan, Joseph Martin, Joel Raney, David Schwoebel <i>Composer Favorites</i>	Truett, Powell Chapel
	Children's Choir: Michael Burkhardt <i>Children in Worship – Preparing, Praising, Proclaiming, and Praying</i>	McCrary, Room 114
	Children's Choir: Terrie Preskitt-Brown <i>Plan the Music - Work the Plan (A Reading Session)</i>	McCrary, Room 118
	Children's Choir: Terry Taylor <i>Music Outreach and Ministries for Children</i>	Jones Concert Hall Stage
	Pre-School Children's Choir: Susan Eernisse <i>I CAN Read Music!</i>	McCrary, Meadows Recital Hall
2:15 – 2:30	Transition	
2:30 – 3:30	Breakout IV (11) Organ: Jack Mitchener <i>Bach Chorale Preludes for the Organ</i>	McCrary, Markham Organ Studio
	Children's Choir: Michael Burkhardt <i>Three "Rs" – Really Rehearsing Repertoire</i> Repeated Friday, 9:45-10:45	McCrary, Room 114
	Children's Choir: Terrie Preskitt-Brown <i>Musicians – Conductors – Herders of Cats</i>	McCrary, Room 118
	Children's Choir: Terry Taylor <i>Music Reading Games for Grades 1-6</i> Repeated Wednesday, 4:00-5:00	McCrary, Jones Concert Hall Stage
	Pre-School Children's Choir: Susan Eernisse <i>Puppets and Furry Friends – Fun with No End!</i>	McCrary, Meadows Recital Hall
	Reading Session: Joseph Martin <i>SAB/2PT Reading Session</i>	McCrary, Room 131
	Piano: Joel Raney <i>Brush Up on Your Technique</i>	McCrary, Room 133
	Conducting: Joshua Habermann <i>Sacred Music from Scandinavia and the Baltics</i>	Truett, Powell Chapel

Fine Arts Academy: Glen Adkins and Heather Vandiver <i>Establishing a School of the Arts in Your Church</i> Repeated Thursday, 4:15-5:15	Truett, Room 113
Youth Choir: Jonathan Rodgers <i>The Missing Link: Fostering Non-Musical Connections in Rehearsal</i>	Truett, Room 114
Worship Planning: Terre Johnson <i>Writing Materials for Worship</i> Repeat of Tuesday, 4:00-5:00	Truett, Room 115
3:30 – 4:00 Break	
4:00 – 5:00 Breakout V (10) Organ: Jack Mitchener <i>Creative Hymn Playing</i> Repeated Thursday, 8:00-9:00	McCrary, Markham Organ Studio
Children's Choir: Michael Burkhardt <i>Stepping Stones to Part Singing</i> Repeated Friday, 8:30-9:30	McCrary, Room 114
Children's Choir: Terrie Preskitt-Brown <i>Special Needs – Special Worship</i>	McCrary, Room 118
Children's Choir: Terry Taylor <i>Music Reading Games for Grades 1-6</i> Repeat of Wednesday, 2:30-3:30	McCrary, Jones Concert Hall Stage
Pre-School Children's Choir: Susan Eernisse <i>First Things First: Covering the Basics in Preschool Music</i> Repeat of Wednesday, 8:00-9:00	McCrary, Meadows Recital Hall
Piano: Joseph Martin <i>New Piano Releases</i>	McCrary, Room 131
Conducting: Joshua Habermann <i>Around the World in 60 Minutes</i>	Truett, Powell Chapel
Worship Planning: Mark Humphrey <i>Putting the Pieces Back Together: Designing Worship Toward Reconciliation and Redefining the "Other"</i> Repeated Friday, 8:30-9:30	Truett, Room 113
Youth Choir: Jonathan Rodgers <i>Demolition Derby: Building, Renovating, Reimagining Student Choirs</i>	Truett, Room 114
PIE Talk: Kerry Burkley, Terre Johnson, and Leslie King <i>My Most Important Ministry Lesson</i>	Truett, Room 115
5:15 – 6:00 Student Concert	
6:00-7:30 Dinner on your own	
7:30-9:00 Reading Session IV: Elaine Hagenberg, Joseph Martin, Joel Raney, David Schwoebel <i>Praise God with Instruments</i>	Truett, Powell Chapel

DAY III: HANDBELL/PRAISE BANDS DAY
Thursday, July 19

8:00 – 9:00 Breakout VI (10) Organ: Jack Mitchener <i>Creative Hymn Playing</i> Repeat of Wednesday, 4:00-5:00	McCrary, Markham Organ Studio
Children's Choir: Michael Burkhardt <i>Nuts and Bolts – Before, During, and After the Rehearsal</i>	McCrary, Meadows Recital Hall
Beginning Handbells: Sueda Luttrell <i>Foundations in Technique and Notation</i>	McCrary, Room 114
Advanced Handbells: Ron Mallory <i>Techniques for Handbell Ringers and Conductors</i>	McCrary, Room 118
Cantata Reading Session: Joseph Martin <i>Portraits of Grace</i>	McCrary, Room 131

Piano: James Stevens <i>Piano Arranging and Composition</i>	McCrary, Room 133
Reading Session: Brian Schmidt <i>New Music for Advanced Church Choirs</i>	McCrary, Jones Concert Hall
Praise Bands: Josh Stewart <i>Rehearsing Your Band</i> Repeated Friday, 9:45-10:45	Truett, Powell Chapel
Worship: Zac Hicks <i>God is Actually in the Room: Worship as Encounter</i>	Truett, Room 107
Technology: Mason Williams and Danny Andrade <i>Sanctuary Transition and Renovation: A/V Considerations</i>	Truett, Room 114
9:00 – 9:15 Transition	
9:15 – 10:15 Reading Session V: Elaine Hagenberg <i>Celebrate Diversity</i>	Truett, Powell Chapel
Beginning Handbells: Sueda Luttrell <i>Resources and Composing for Processionals, Bell Trees, and Descants</i>	McCrary, Room 114
Advanced Handbells: Ron Mallory <i>Composing and Arranging for Handbells</i>	McCrary, Room 118
Praise Bands: Josh Stewart <i>Understanding the Band's Language</i> Repeated Friday, 8:30-9:30	Truett, Room 107
10:15 – 10:30 Break	
10:30 – 11:30 Worship: <i>Don't Lose Heart</i> led by Scott Davis and Baylor Church Music Students; Joel Gregory, preacher	Truett, Powell Chapel
11:30 – 1:15 Luncheon with Award and Student Recognition	Foster, Room 250
1:15 – 2:30 Reading Session VI: Joel Raney <i>Sing We Now of Advent & Christmas</i>	Truett, Powell Chapel
Beginning Handbells: Sueda Luttrell <i>Managing Multiple Bells</i>	McCrary, Room 114
Advanced Handbells: Ron Mallory <i>Handbells in Contemporary Worship</i>	McCrary, Room 118
Praise Bands: Josh Stewart <i>Resources for Praise Bands</i>	Truett, Room 107
2:30 – 2:45 Transition	
2:45 – 3:45 Breakout VII (10) Organ: Jack Mitchener <i>Beginning Improvisation</i>	McCrary, Markham Organ Studio
Children's Choir: Michael Burkhardt <i>The Care and Feeding of Children's Choirs</i>	McCrary, Meadows Recital Hall
Beginning Handbells: Sueda Luttrell <i>Beginning Handbell Reading Session</i>	McCrary, Room 114
Advanced Handbells: Ron Mallory <i>Advanced Handbell Reading Session</i>	McCrary, Room 118
Reading Session: Joseph Martin <i>Children's Music Reading Session</i>	McCrary, Room 131
Piano: James Stevens <i>Hymn Improvisation for the Church Pianist</i>	McCrary, Room 133

Praise Bands: Josh Stewart <i>Recruiting and Keeping Musicians</i>	Truett, Powell Chapel
Worship: Zac Hicks <i>Planning Worship Like a Dietician</i>	Truett, Room 107
Technology: Mason Williams and Danny Andrade <i>Worship Technology: Approaches to Varying Worship Styles</i> Repeated Friday, 8:30-9:30	Truett, Room 114
Panel Discussion: Betsy Bone, Mike Eller, Susan Hoover, and Rick Rowell <i>Forming a Spiritually Healthy Congregation Through Song</i>	Truett, Room 115
3:45 – 4:15 Break	
4:15 – 5:15 Breakout VIII (11)	
Organ: Jack Mitchener <i>Performance Practice from Alpha to Omega</i>	McCrary, Markham Organ Studio
Children's Choir: Michael Burkhardt <i>The Care and Feeding of the Children's Choir Director</i>	McCrary, Meadows Recital Hall
Global Song: Carlos Colón and Maria Monteiro <i>Somos pueblo que camina (We Are People on a Journey)</i> Repeated Friday, 9:45-10:45	McCrary, Room 114
Handbells: Sueda Luttrell & Ron Mallory <i>Paths to Musicality</i>	McCrary, Room 118
Conducting: Stephen Gusukuma <i>Maximizing Rehearsals with your Church Choir</i> Repeated Friday, 8:30-9:30	McCrary, Room 131
Reading Session: Joseph Martin <i>Advanced Choral Music Reading Session</i>	McCrary, Room 133
Piano: James Stevens <i>Can You Hear It?</i>	McCrary, Room 141
Praise Bands: Josh Stewart <i>Live Band Rehearsal</i>	Truett, Powell Chapel
Worship: Zac Hicks <i>The Lord Will Fight for Us: Worship as War</i>	Truett, Room 107
Worship Talkback: Randall Bradley <i>Worship Talkback</i>	Truett, Room 113
Fine Arts Academy: Glen Adkins and Heather Vandiver <i>Establishing a School of the Arts in Your Church</i> Repeat of Wednesday, 2:30-3:30	Truett, Room 114
5:15 – 7:00 Dinner on your own	
7:00 - 8:30 Concert: FBC San Antonio Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra	McCrary, Jones Concert Hall

DAY IV
Friday, July 20

8:30 – 9:30 Breakout IX (10)	
Organ: Jack Mitchener <i>Organ Repertoire – Old & New</i> Repeat of Tuesday, 2:30-3:30	McCrary, Jones Concert Hall Stage
Children's Choir: Michael Burkhardt <i>Stepping Stones to Part Singing</i> Repeat of Wednesday, 4:00-5:00	McCrary, Room 114
Conducting: Stephen Gusukuma <i>Maximizing Rehearsals with your Church Choir</i> Repeat of Thursday, 4:15-5:15	McCrary, Room 118
Composing: Joseph Martin <i>Composing Workshop</i>	McCrary, Room 131
Special Session: Benjamin Harlan	McCrary, Room 133

Let's Sing! Congregational Song – Resources and Ideas

Repeat of Tuesday, 4:00-5:00

Praise Bands: Josh Stewart	Truett, Powell Chapel
<i>Understanding the Band's Language</i>	
Repeat of Thursday, 9:15-10:15	
Worship: Zac Hicks	Truett, Room 107
<i>A Touchy Subject: Emotions and Worship</i>	
Worship Planning: Mark Humphrey	Truett, Room 113
<i>Putting the Pieces Back Together: Designing Worship Toward Reconciliation and Redefining the "Other"</i>	
Repeat of Wednesday, 4:00-5:00	
Technology: Mason Williams and Danny Andrade	Truett, Room 114
<i>Worship Technology: Approaches to Varying Worship Styles</i>	
Repeat of Thursday, 2:45-3:45	
Spirituals: Stephanie Boddie	Truett, Room 115
<i>Spirituals and the Souls of Black Folk</i>	
Repeat of Tuesday, 2:30-3:30	

9:30 – 9:45 Transition

9:45 – 10:45 Breakout X (10)	
Organ: Jack Mitchener	McCrary, Jones Concert Hall Stage
<i>Demystifying the Organ</i>	
Children's Choir: Michael Burkhardt	McCrary, Room 114
<i>Three "Rs" – Really Rehearsing Repertoire</i>	
Repeat of Wednesday, 2:30-3:30	
Piano: Joseph Martin	McCrary, Room 131
<i>Master Class</i>	
Conducting Basics: David Music	McCrary, Room 133
<i>The Beginning Church Choir Director</i>	
Repeat of Tuesday, 2:30-3:30	
Global Song: Carlos Colón and Maria Monteiro	McCrary, Meadows Recital Hall
<i>Somos pueblo que camina (We Are People on a Journey)</i>	
Repeat of Thursday, 4:15-5:15	
Praise Bands: Josh Stewart	Truett, Powell Chapel
<i>Rehearsing Your Band</i>	
Repeat of Thursday, 8:00-9:00	
Worship: Zac Hicks	Truett, Room 107
<i>Architecting Gospel-Shaped Worship Services in Any Tradition</i>	
Technology: Mason Williams and Danny Andrade	Truett, Room 113
<i>Planning Center Tutorial and General Church Technology Q&A</i>	
Concert Talkback: Aaron Hufty	Truett, Room 114
<i>Concert Talkback</i>	
Choir: Randall Bradley	Truett, Room 115
<i>Building Your Choir Intergenerationally</i>	
Repeat of Wednesday, 8:00-9:00	

10:45 – 11:00 Transition

11:00 – 12:15 Reading Session VII: Joseph Martin	Truett, Powell Chapel
<i>Potpourri of Praise</i>	
12:15 – 12:35 Closing Worship	Truett, Powell Chapel
<i>A Service of Blessing and Commission</i>	

Please refer to our printed conference book or mobile guidebook for finalized version of schedule.

Alleluia

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Session Descriptions

July 17-20, 2018

Establishing a School of The Arts In Your Church

Glen Adkins

Spirituals & The Souls Of Black Folk

Stephanie Boddie

In this presentation, I weave the history of African Americans along with primary research, secondary sources and various arrangements of Spirituals. Using a multi-media format, I offer a novel approach to experience these timeless treasures. The music ranges from traditional versions of Spirituals like "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" to contemporary arrangements of "I am seeking for a City".

Building Your Choir Intergenerationally

Randall Bradley

Many church choirs are aging and lacking the ability to attract younger members. Based on a working model, this session will explore strategies that, in a local church context, are proving to be effective.

Hearts, Hands and Voices – Working with the Whole Person

Michael Burkhardt

A hands-on session and experience focusing on whole person and learning style awareness in working with children's choir singers.

Working with the Child Voice

Michael Burkhardt

A session focusing on understanding the child voice and developmental experiences for singers of all shapes and sizes (speech-like singer, dependent singer, limited-range singer, untuned singer).

Repertoire Selection:

Michael Burkhardt

Where we're at, where we've been, where we're going

A session focusing on choosing meaningful and appropriate literature for children of all ages and backgrounds.

Children in Worship – Preparing, Praising, Proclaiming and Praying

Michael Burkhardt

A hands-on session and experience focusing on engaging children in worship and children leading worship.

Three "Rs" – Really Rehearsing Repertoire

Michael Burkhardt

A hands-on session and experience focusing on score study, rehearsal planning and rehearsal strategies.

Stepping Stones to Part Singing

Michael Burkhardt

A hands-on session and experience focusing on sequential planning for and development of part singing skills.

Nuts and Bolts – Before, During, and After the Rehearsal

Michael Burkhardt

A session focusing on the non-musical aspects of a children’s choir program.

The Care and Feeding of Children’s Choirs

Michael Burkhardt

A hands-on session and experience focusing on both the spiritual and musical nourishment of young singers.

The Care and Feeding of the Children’s Choir Director

Michael Burkhardt

A session focusing on the physical, emotional and spiritual well-being of children’s choir leaders.

PIE TALK: My Most Important Ministry Lesson

Burkley/Johnson/King

Ministry leadership is often confusing and challenging, but lessons are learned along the way that offer hope amidst the difficulty. Join these church leaders as they each share their most important ministry lessons, followed by an invitation to discuss.

Somos pueblo que camina/We Are People on a Journey

Carlos Colón

Congregational singing is the main form of communal participation in worship. Hymns and songs provide the worshipers with a shared vocabulary that deeply shapes their faith, witness, and commitment to serve the community and the world. In this workshop, we will explore a repertoire of bilingual (Spanish-English), Scripturally-inspired songs from a variety of contexts and cultures, which transcending a language divide, can expand our vision of what it means to be the people of God, living in this world. These songs will appear in a forthcoming (summer 2019, GIA Publications, Inc.) hymnal, Santo, santo, santo/Holy, Holy, Holy: Cantos para el pueblo de Dios/Songs for the people of God.

First Things First: Covering the Basics in Preschool Music

Susan Eernisse

We will look at key music concept categories and engaging activities to plug into weekly preschool music sessions...singing, listening, moving, and more. We will use the new Growing in Grace Preschool Fall Unit “Fruit of the Spirit” as a guide.

I CAN Read Music!

Susan Eernisse

Help preschoolers develop pre-reading music skills to put them on the path to a lifetime of music making. We’ll explore colorful, active, hands-on activities that will leave the PreK bunch (& their teachers) wanting more.

Puppets and Furry Friends – Fun With No End!

Susan Eernisse

Add puppets to music for a winning combination! Story songs, singing skills and musical concepts are great fun with these furry friends; AND you don’t have to be a ventriloquist to be successful!

Sing in a Circle

Susan Eernisse

Singing songs, playing games and exploring instruments...so much better when we do it together. Help preschoolers develop musically and socially through shared learning experiences.

PIE TALK: Engaging Children Through Music - Why It Matters

Gackle/ Monteiro/Taylor

We all agree that musical engagement should begin at an early age, but why does it matter so much? Join these children's music leaders, advocates, and innovators as they each share their philosophy on children's music ministry, discussing how and why music is used to form the children in our churches.

Maximizing Rehearsals With Your Church Choir

Stephen Gusukuma

Dr. Gusukuma will present a variety of strategies for organized, engaging, efficient rehearsals utilizing conceptual teaching, conducting gesture, and organization and planning strategies from warm-ups to closing prayer.

Putting Score Study into Action in the Choral Rehearsal

Joshua Habermann

95% of our time is spent not in performance, but in rehearsal. How can we make our rehearsal process both more efficient and more enjoyable? Explore best practices of score preparation and rehearsal techniques designed to engage singers of all levels.

Latin American Choral Performance

Joshua Habermann

More and more of our singers are from Spanish language backgrounds, yet they rarely get the chance to sing the great literature of Latin America. In this session explore the traditions of choral music from Argentina to Mexico, with a focus on performance practices of the various folk traditions, differences in national styles, incorporating improvisation into choral performance, and tips on how and when to use percussion.

Music literacy in the choral rehearsal

Joshua Habermann

When was the last time you heard a choir director complain about too much rehearsal time? All of us, at every level, wish that we could spend less time teaching parts and more time shaping the music. Our choirs' ability to read and internalize music quickly usually varies widely person to person, yet we are tasked with bringing them all together across the finish line. How can we infuse that corporate learning process with literacy-building in such a way that our singers' individual skills grow?

Sacred Music from Scandinavia and the Baltics

Joshua Habermann

Explore great sacred music from the land of the Northern Lights. Pieces appropriate for a variety of levels.

Around the World in 60 Minutes

Joshua Habermann

This session will focus on the most common difficulties for American choirs singing in Spanish, French, Italian and German, and how to correct them. This will not be a review of diction rules, but rather a primer for working directly with singers with careful listening and humor to help them perfect their pronunciation of the most commonly used languages. The cheapest way to see Madrid, Paris, Rome and Berlin in just one hour!

The Composer's Journey

Benjamin Harlan

Congregational Song - Resources and Ideas

Benjamin Harlan

God is Actually in the Room: Worship as Encounter

Zac Hicks

When we gather for worship, do we really believe that God will be present in a unique way? In this session, we will examine a biblical and theological case for the presence of God in worship's various elements, and explore practically how we can recover the wonder of the God who is there.

Planning Worship Like a Dietician

Zac Hicks

Worship planning is all too often enslaved to the tyranny of the urgent. In this session, we will look at planning through the helpful metaphor of a "theological dietician," exploring the breadth of themes in the Scriptures and how we can successfully plan a healthy "diet" of those themes into the short-term and long-term rhythms of weekly worship.

The Lord Will Fight for Us: Worship as War

Zac Hicks

When we enter into gathered worship, we step into a battlefield where a spiritual war is taking place. How does Scripture tell us to arm ourselves? What are our chief weapons? How are we made ready? How do we cultivate a sense of urgency in others? We will explore these questions and more.

A Touchy Subject: Emotions and Worship

Zac Hicks

What do our emotions have to do with worship? Is healthy emotionalism even imaginable in our contexts, and if so, how do we help the people of God engage in "faithful feelings" when we gather to sing, pray, preach, and come to the table? We will explore biblical themes and the history that has shaped our thinking, and we will look at some practical ways to move toward a more Christian understanding of emotions in worship.

Architecting Gospel-Shaped Worship Services in Any Tradition

Zac Hicks

The gospel is the center of our Christian faith, and its story has anchored worship for centuries across many different traditions. How do we structure worship services which are "in step with the truth of the gospel" (Gal 2:14), simultaneously faithful to the historic traditions and practices of the church and engaged with the needs and expressions of our local community's time and place? We will explore this and more.

Putting The Pieces Back Together:

Mark Humphrey

Designing Worship Toward Reconciliation And Redefining The 'Other

Given the Church's historical trend toward greater and greater division, how do we design worship aimed toward repairing the fractures of time in an age when our differences seem to define us more than ever? The scope of the solutions may likely be as diverse as the scope of the problems, but how do we avoid being so overwhelmed by the task that we never engage in the process?

Introduction to Notation Software

Ben Johansen

This session is designed to equip musicians with the fundamentals of using notation software effectively and efficiently. Whether you have never used notation software or if you use it daily, this session is for

you. You will get experience using Finale, Dorico, and some free alternatives as you sit at your own lab computer equipped with Finale and Dorico software, a MIDI keyboard, and headphones. Sessions will take place on the 3rd floor of the Moody Library in the Crouch Library's Music Lab.

Writing Materials for Worship

Terre Johnson

From liturgy to creativity: how we can use our text and musical writing to enable our congregation's worship

PIE TALK: My Most Important Ministry Lesson

Burkley/Johnson/King

Ministry leadership is often confusing and challenging, but lessons are learned along the way that offer hope amidst the difficulty. Join these church leaders as they each share their most important ministry lessons, followed by an invitation to discuss.

Foundations in Technique and Notation

Sueda Luttrell

Teaching strategies addressing basic ringing and the interpretation of handbell notation and the related techniques.

Resources and Composing for Processionals, Bell Trees, and Descants

Sueda Luttrell

Learn to create your own simple yet effective embellishments and textures to worship services and concerts.

Managing Multiple Bells

Sueda Luttrell

Strategies for successfully managing multiple bells, including weaving, displacement, shelley, and four in hand.

Paths to Musicality

Sueda Luttrell

Explore a variety of ways to infuse musicality into ringing from the first rehearsal. This will be a joint class with the Advanced Handbell track.

Beginning Handbell Reading Session

Sueda Luttrell

Read and ring great recent releases for Levels 1 - 2+, plus a few older gems.

Techniques for Handbell Ringers and Conductors

Ron Mallory

Good technique provides a foundation for good musicianship. We'll explore advanced techniques for both handbell ringers and conductors, and along the way will help each to better understand the other's role in making great music.

Composing and Arranging for Handbells

Ron Mallory

Learn methods of creating your own arrangements and original compositions for advanced handbell choirs, from hymn settings to processionals and beyond.

Handbells in Contemporary Worship

Ron Mallory

More and more churches are switching to contemporary worship styles, and there's no reason handbell

musicians can't participate. Come explore some creative ways to use a handbell choir, ensemble, or soloist in a contemporary worship setting.

Paths to Musicality

Ron Mallory

Explore a variety of ways to infuse musicality into ringing from the first rehearsal. This will be a joint class with the Beginning Handbell track.

Advanced Handbell Reading Session

Ron Mallory

Discover some of the great music released by various publishers in the past several years. This reading session will primarily cover music in HMA Levels 3 through 5.

Advanced Choral Music Reading Session

Joseph Martin

Cantata Reading Session: *Christmas Dreams/Rhapsody in Bluegrass*

Joseph Martin

(Christmas Dreams) The Christmas story is told with fresh perspective in this collaborative cantata from Joseph Martin and Heather Sorenson. Throughout time God has touched and motivated hearts through dreams and visions. Christmas Dreams visits these moments in scripture and connects the experiences of ancient times with our modern journey of faith, pointing to Christ, in whose birth the hopes, yearnings and dreams of all the world are fulfilled. (Rhapsody in Bluegrass) Set hearts soaring with this joyful Christmas cantata based on American folk songs, spirituals, bluegrass-styled carols and original gospel songs. Traditional choral elements dance easily with the rustic qualities of the "mountain" music and the results are pure joy.

Cantata Reading Session: *Portraits of Grace*

Joseph Martin

Portraits in Grace is a musical gallery of faith displaying the life, ministry and passion of Jesus. Through scripture, narration and song, the backdrop is created for the reflections of the Lenten season, particularly during Holy Week. As the cantata moves through Christ's extraordinary life, each song displays the sacred beauty of the Savior and lingers with His many graceful acts of love.

Children's Music Reading Session

Joseph Martin

New Piano Releases

Joseph Martin

Piano Masterclass

Joseph Martin

SAB/2PT Reading Session

Joseph Martin

On The Interactions Between Black Sacred Music And Western Concert Forms **Horace Maxile**

This session explores various manifestations of the black sacred music in orchestral, piano, and chamber works by African-American composers. The idea of "sacred" is also treated broadly as issues surrounding reinterpretation of black folk spirituals and gospel intersect with ideas that relate more to spiritual matters of an individual (beliefs, etc.). The session will conclude with investigations of (1) the interactions of Western approaches form and style with African-American sacred song and (2) potential applications for various components of music ministry .

Creative Hymn Playing

Jack Mitchener

A discussion and demonstration of ideas about all aspects of playing hymns on the organ including introductions, interludes, modulations, registration and general approaches to hymn playing.

Beginning Organ Improvisation

Jack Mitchener

An introduction to the art of improvisation on the organ. The primary focus will be on improvisations based on hymn tunes, but there also will be a general discussion of how to improvise short interludes and various non hymn-based pieces.

Organ Master Class, Part I

Jack Mitchener

Participants will have the opportunity to play any piece they wish and to receive comments from Dr. Mitchener. If possible, please email mitchener_je@merc.edu with the title of the piece you would like to play.

Organ Master Class, Part II

Jack Mitchener

Participants will have another opportunity to play any piece they wish and to receive comments from Dr. Mitchener. This class will be for anyone who did not play in the first master class. If possible, please email mitchener_je@merc.edu with the title of the piece you would like to play.

Organ Repertoire - Old & New

Jack Mitchener

A demonstration of organ repertoire through the centuries. The emphasis will be on literature that is appropriate for church services.

Bach Chorale Preludes for the Organ

Jack Mitchener

J. S. Bach was one of the greatest church musicians in history. This session will be a discussion and demonstration of Bach's art of "preluding" on a chorale tune. The approach will include a chronological journey through Bach's chorale-based works.

Healthy Playing Techniques for the Organist

Jack Mitchener

Have you ever felt tired or even exhausted after practicing the organ or playing a church service? Come and hear some ideas of ways to alleviate tension in playing. Renew your love for playing the organ!

Performance Practice from Alpha to Omega

Jack Mitchener

We live in a time when it is understood that we should play Bach and Buxtehude differently from Brahms and Bolcom. This will be a discussion and demonstration of the stylistic differences in organ literature and the performance practices of various styles.

PIE TALK: Engaging Children Through Music - Why It Matters

Gackle/ Monteiro/Taylor

We all agree that musical engagement should begin at an early age, but why does it matter so much? Join these children's music leaders, advocates, and innovators as they each share their philosophy on children's music ministry, discussing how and why music is used to form the children in our churches.

The Beginning Church Choir Director

David Music

This session is designed for musicians with little background or training in choral directing who find themselves leading a church choir. Questions to be discussed will include "What do you listen for"? and "What does the choir need from you"? as well as others.

Amp It Up @ Music Camp

Terrie Preskitt-Brown

A guide for producing a fun, musical, spiritual week of summer camp for children using Orff-Schulwerk as the guiding principal.

Plan the Work - Work the Plan

Terrie Preskitt-Brown

Beautiful singing isn't easy, but with the right tools, your rehearsals can become the conduit through which praising God through song becomes an act of artistic creation, and your choirs will stay engaged, and sound great!

Plan the Music - Work the Plan - Reading Session

Terrie Preskitt-Brown

A continuation of "Plan the Work - Work the Plan" in which we'll look at specific anthems and discover the keys to the beautiful singing that is locked inside each one.

Musicians - Conductors - Herders of Cats

Terrie Preskitt-Brown

When we step in front of a group of children, we become Herders of Cats. How to keep the Musician & Conductor inside us happy as we work with wee ones. Tips and Tricks!

Special Needs - Special Worship

Terrie Preskitt-Brown

Almost three years ago, at Highland Park UMC in Dallas, we created an All-Inclusive Choir and a service with the Special Needs Community. what we do, how we do it, and the Holy Spirit at work!

Brush Up on Your Technique

Joel Raney

This session will serve as a refresher course; focusing on improving piano techniques.

Culture and Choir: Friends or Foes?

Jonathan Rodgers

Are these two entities really in conflict with one another? Some say yes. Some say no. In this more interactive, discussion-based session, we will exchange ideas and personal experiences that will help us understand how culture is influencing choral music and how choral music can influence culture. Come ready to share your experiences and insights.

The Missing Link: Fostering Non-Musical Connections in Rehearsal

Jonathan Rodgers

In the pursuit of making excellent music, one can often overlook intangible elements of the music-making process. These elements often include shared experiences, goals, student/conductor interaction, and purposeful activities associated with the choral music experience. This session will discuss ways to create a communal environment through shared experiences within the choral ensemble that, when combined with well-rehearsed music, help yield a dynamic musical product.

Demolition Derby: Building, Renovating, Reimagining Student Choirs

Jonathan Rodgers

Many churches have given up on student choir and realized the error of their ways. They are seeking to

go back and start their student choir ministry over from scratch. Some are stepping into new ministry positions and need to make some drastic changes to make way for future success. Whatever the situation, we will discuss ways to get a student choir program going in the right direction after it has not existed or after it has stalled.

Anywhere from Here

James Stevens

How to make smooth modulations and transitions from any key to any key with demonstrations on the spot.

Can You Hear It?

James Stevens

The basics of playing piano by ear for the non-ear player and opportunities to participate.

Chord Chemistry 101

James Stevens

Learn the exact meaning of chord symbols from the most basic to the most complex and how to accurately and practically form them for playing.

From Chords to Accompaniments

James Stevens

How to take the chords from a lyric or lead sheet and create effective accompaniments emphasizing contemporary accompaniment patterns and tasteful voice leading.

Hymn Improvisation for the Church Pianist

James Stevens

Learn different practical techniques of improvisation of traditional hymns with examples of different styles and on the spot discussing of selected hymns.

Piano Arranging and Composition

James Stevens

Discuss and examine writing techniques for the piano with an overview of Stevens' personal process of composition for the piano and other instruments.

Rehearsing Your Band

Josh Stewart

In this session we will discuss practical ways to structure your rehearsals to maximize your time and get the best sounds you can with the instruments and musicians you have the joy of serving in worship leadership with each week.

Understanding The Band's Language

Josh Stewart

Musicians have their own language and at times volunteers don't understand the language a band uses to communicate. Sometimes we as leaders need refreshers or don't know the terms ourselves. This session will look at some key terms that can be used in working with praise bands to quickly and effectively communicate in rehearsals and/or worship services!

Recruiting And Keeping Musicians

Josh Stewart

Knowing how to recruit musicians for your praise band can sometimes be a daunting task. And once you get them on your team understanding how to keep them motivated to stay involved is an important part of your job as a leader. In this session we will talk about some practical tips and ideas you can use to recruit and invest into musicians.

Resources For Praise Bands

Josh Stewart

There are many great resources to train and equip your praise band. In this session we will look at songs for worship, resources to train individual instruments and vocalist in your band, technology to organize, grow and strengthen your ministry, and many more resources to assist you in developing an effective ministry that makes an impact in your church.

Live Band Rehearsal

Josh Stewart

One of the best ways to learn how to work with a praise band is to see a real life example. In this session we will walk through a live rehearsal with a band of church musicians preparing for a worship service. You will see, first hand, the nuts and bolts of running an effective rehearsal and getting your team ready to lead!

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