

AVA Fall Workshop General Meeting
September 10, 2020 4:00pm
Virtual Meeting

Randall Fields called the meeting to order at 4:05pm. Randall welcomed all to the virtual meeting.

- Motion was made by Cara Thomas to skip the reading of the minutes and motion was seconded by Heather Cantwell. Minutes were approved and will be on the website for reference.
- Margaret Heron presented the financial report for Carl Davis (not in attendance) and instructed membership to direct questions to Carl.

President's Report

- Randall Fields thanked the Board for all the work put forth this year in trying to navigate this virtual world. He apologized for any confusion or lack of communication thus far.
- Randall reiterated that all Fall semester activities will be online with the hopes that the Spring will be back to some semblance of normalcy.
- Randall addressed questions that were submitted through the online database.
- January 15 will be the date that the Board will re-evaluate the Spring AVA events.

All-State

- October 1 will be the registration deadline and checks have to be postmarked by October 15.
- Randall reported that currently we do not know how many students will be auditioning so the entire event might have to be reconstructed to facilitate lower numbers. We are considering ways to make this event as close to normal as possible.
- The date is a non-negotiable due to the BJCC being booked for every other weekend.
- Even if this event is cancelled, the students will receive a certificate and medal.
- Hilan Wilson presented the results of the director survey and the current highest possible number of students auditioning is 1245. We typically have over 2000, so this is a problem.
- Meg Jones discussed the possibility of scaling this back to one HS and one MS choir. She explained the financial stress that AVA encounters when All-State does not make a certain amount.
- Meg reported that she using Google Classroom will be half of the cost of using one of the other programs like *Accept'd* or *Submittable*. She is going to create a "practice" classroom for directors to use to make it more familiar. She explained that there is an instruction video on the AVA website for this process.
- Meg instructed directors to make sure the students use a personal gmail account to prevent issues with accessing Google Classroom. Meg addressed

issues that might arise using this platform, with an understanding that it will be a learning experience. Some directors mentioned their schools would not allow anyone to access Google. Discussion ensued and it was suggested that those students will need to upload their auditions at home or the director could facilitate a location off-campus for assistance. Meg said she had looked at several other platforms, but we need too much space and also accessibility for a panel of judges. Google Classroom is the cheapest and easiest platform to use this year.

ASSC

- Cameron Weiler presented a plan for this event that will work during the week of AMEA. This plan will be on the AVA website for directors to see.
- The event will be held during the AMEA virtual conference with a shorter schedule and a concert on Friday night. There will also be a space for directors at the ASSC event to stream the AMEA virtual conference.
- The event will be held at Cameron's high school, which seats around 1800, so social distancing should not be a problem.
- The concert will be live-streamed in addition to parents attending on site.
- The audition will be the same as in years past, online, with the same requirements and structure.
- Cameron asked that directors help ensure that students have an appropriate space for recording their videos. Students should dress modestly for the video audition.
- October 1 is the end of registration and October 15 is the date for postmarked checks for ASSC

AVA Website & Task Force

- Webmaster Jim Schaeffer went through the AVA Website links and info.
- Resources and helpful links are on the website for directors to help navigate the virtual teaching world.

AVA Advocacy Committee

- Khristina Motley is the AVA representative for High School and Dee Hamner will represent the Middle School.
- She asked that members help find low-income schools and communities in order to reach out and get them involved in the AVA events.
- The goal of this committee will be to build bridges, open lines of communication and identify needs of students and teachers that are marginalized.

New Business/Votes

- Randall presented to the membership the following motions made at Summer Board:

AVA By-Law Change Proposals:

Article VI. Fees

Section 6.7. A school that is a combined junior/senior high or middle/high in one physical plant with only one choral director will pay only one school fee when submitting one application form with one check.

Section 6.7. will read "A school that is a combined junior/senior high or middle/high in one physical plant (with one shared address and the same administration) with only one choral director will pay only one school fee when submitting one registration with one payment."

Article XI. All-State Choir and All-State Show Choir

Section 11.3. The All-State Choirs will consist of students selected by audition from grades 7-12 as follows:

- A. **High School SATB All-State Choir** (grades 10-12; 9th graders may not audition)
- B. **High School SSA All-State Choir** (female students in grades 9-12)
- C. **High School TTBB All-State Choir** (male students in grades 9-12)
- D. **Middle School Mixed Choir** (male students in grades 7-8, may audition for any part; female students in grade 8 only)
- E. **Middle School Treble Choir** (female students in grades 7 and 8)
- F. **All-State Show Choir** (grades 10-12)

Section 11.3 will read "All-State Choirs will consist of students selected by audition from grades 7-12 as follows:

- A. High School SATB: All-State Choir (grades 10-12; 9th graders may not audition)*
- B. High School SSA All-State Choir (grades 9-12; see vocal range in Appendix A)*
- C. High School TTBB All-State Choir (grades 9-12; see vocal range in Appendix A)*
- D. Middle School Mixed Choir (TB students grades 7-8, treble students grade 8 only)*
- E. Middle School Treble Choir (treble students in grades 7 and 8)*
- F. All-State Show Choir (grades 9-12)"*

Section 11.4. Auditions for the All-State Choirs will be held in several locations throughout the state; auditions for All-State Show Choir will be held in designated locations in the state.

Section 11.4 will read "Auditions for All-State Choirs will be held each year. Directors will be notified of the audition procedure at the beginning of each year."

Article XIII. Outstanding Choral Student

Section 13.13. The seven District Chairmen on the Board of Directors will serve as the panel of adjudicators for the State Outstanding Choral Student candidates. District Chairmen will not score their own District representatives. One state level male Outstanding Choral Student and one state level female Outstanding Choral Student will be chosen, if there are qualified candidates.

Section 13. 13 will read "The seven District Chairs on the Board of Directors will serve as the panel of adjudicators for the State Outstanding Choral Student

Candidates. District Chairs will not score their own District representatives. One state-level tenor/bass Outstanding Choral Student and one treble Outstanding Choral Student will be chosen, if there are qualified candidates."

- Jody Powell made a motion for discussion, seconded by Meg Jones. Discussion ensued that included a question of the new wording for the MS Mixed All-State. Jody Powell reminded the membership that the reason the MS Treble choir was started was to allow more treble voices to participate, as the Mixed is limited with TB voices. It was suggested that it might limit the number of girls even further if we allow boys to be members of the treble choir. Members were concerned for boys in 7th grade in particular.
- Heather Cantwell made the following motion (seconded by Taylor Stricklin) that the wording be changed to read:

11.3- D. MS Mixed Choir (students in grades 7-8, unchanged voices in grade 7-8, and treble students grade 8 only)

(Motion passed)

- The membership discussed the need for clarification in the OCS wording, as the voicing might be an issue. Corey Griffith made the following motion, seconded by Hilan Wilson:

"See vocal range in Appendix A" should be added to the OCS section

(Motion passed)

- Jody Powell made the following motion, seconded by Alice LaGrone:

The same wording will be used for both district and state level OCS.

(Motion passed)

→Meg Jones made a motion to accept the proposals with the above changes. Hilan Wilson seconded.

(Motion passed)

→The membership voted on and the proposals were accepted (with above edits).

Jody Powell moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Heather Cantwell. Meeting was adjourned at 5:20pm.