

September 3 , 2016

To: ACDA / NAFME members and all choral conductors in the 6 Pacific Northwest States  
From: Dr. Geoffrey Boers (UW) and Stuart Hunt  
Re: October 22, 2016

## ***"Creating a Choral Culture"***

Dear Fellow Choral Conductors –

We wish to invite you to join us for an important day of visioning and discussion about how we develop, train and assess our choral ensembles, as well as the activities in which they participate.

We will be meeting at the *First Covenant Church in Seattle*, starting at 9:00 am (with plenty of food before and a **hearty** lunch provided).

As you may have heard, Geoffrey Boers and Stuart Hunt have been working for some time to shape some ideas regarding assessment, musicianship training, adjudication, and repertoire issues, to attempt to develop a system in which all of these varied issues can work together in a better way to assist both conductors their choirs. We had an exploratory meeting this past spring and shared this information in various ways over the summer.

On October 22<sup>nd</sup>, we will be addressing and discussing:

- suggestions for collaboration between NAFME and ACDA on a number of common, important issues affecting various areas of our art, for the betterment and benefit of both.
- Possible implementation of a system of *6 levels of choral development* and what might be possibilities for assessing our choirs to determine:
  - the appropriate level of each choir for skill development and sight-reading
  - the appropriate level for literature
  - utilizing a level-based system of adjudication for festivals and "competitions"
  - developing level based adjudications and adjudication forms?
  - developing level-based repertoire lists for and other ramifications for the publishing industry?

The day will begin with a social time and registration from 8-9, then we will adjourn at 3:00 pm.

If you plan to attend, for our space and food planning, please email:

[stuart@northernsoundpress.com](mailto:stuart@northernsoundpress.com)

WMEA will provide 5.5 clock hours for our day.

The initial thoughts have been received with great hope and excitement. ACDA leaders such as Northwest ACDA Preseident Nicole Lamartine and National Executive Director Tim Sharp are enthusiastic about the ideas we are about to develop.

Thank you for considering bringing your expertise and experience to contribute to a significant new vision and re-vision of our beloved art.

Warm regards,  
Geoffrey Boers and Stuart Hunt  
425-238-1666