



2026 Madrigal & Chamber Choir Festival
February 27 & 28, 2026
Trinity Baptist Church
San Antonio, TX



ADJUDICATORS



Meg Frazier is Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities at Loyola University New Orleans, where she conducts the Loyola Chorale and Chamber Singers and teaches conducting. Dr. Frazier served the College of Music and Fine Arts as Associate Dean and the School of Music and Theatre Professions as Director. A native of Longview, Texas, Dr. Frazier studied with Dr. Bev Henson at Sam Houston State University, earning her BMed and MM in Conducting; she later studied with Dr. Ken Fulton at LSU, where she earned her DMA in Choral Conducting. In addition to her Loyola choirs, Dr. Frazier is the Artistic Director/Conductor of the choirs of NOVA, a community-based choral organization in New Orleans. She serves as the choral contractor/conductor for the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra. A frequent guest conductor/clinician, Dr. Frazier has conducted honor choirs in 14 states, including 9 all-states. She has extensive experience in church and community choirs as both a conductor and chorister and particularly enjoys singing in chamber ensembles.



Elizabeth (Libby) Hearn is an Assistant Professor of Choral Music Education at the University of Mississippi, where she conducts Women's Glee & University Chorus. She also teaches graduate & undergraduate courses in choral music education, conducting, and qualitative research. Additionally, Libby serves the MidSouth Music Organization as conductor of the Mississippi River Chorale, an adult community choir. Before joining the faculty at Ole Miss, Dr. Hearn received a Ph.D. in music education from the University of Alabama. She previously held the position of Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities at Marian University in Indianapolis. Her career in secondary education began in Alabama, where she successfully taught choral music at Hueytown High School for seven years. In addition to teaching & conducting, Libby has presented her research in published journals and at international, national, regional, and state conferences. Her research interests include treble/SA choirs, job mobility in music education, assessment, music teacher education, and ACDA history. She currently serves as president of the Mississippi American Choral Directors Association and co-editor of the Mississippi Music Educators Journal.



Reginal Wright is a renowned composer, conductor, educator, and Lecturer in Choral Music at Baylor University. With over 25 years of experience, his music, celebrated for its emotive blend of melody, rhythm, and text, has been performed by choirs ranging from middle schools to professional ensembles. Reginal's compositions, including "Invictus," featured at the 2021 ACDA National Convention, and "Opportunity," presented at Carnegie Hall in 2023, have earned him acclaim in the choral music world. His impactful piece "Where Are the Bodies," performed by the Turtle Creek Chorale at Carnegie Hall, highlights his ability to address profound themes through music. As a clinician, Reginal has collaborated with choirs across the U.S. and Europe, sharing his expertise on a global stage. In addition to his compositional achievements, Reginal is a decorated educator committed to shaping the next generation of musicians. His works are published by leading publishers, including Hal Leonard, Oxford University Press, and his own Reginal Wright Music. Residing in Arlington, Texas, he remains an influential figure in the choral community through his music, teaching, and leadership.

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J.D. Burnett enjoys a varied career as a conductor, singer, and teacher. He is Artistic Director of Orpheus Chamber Singers, the premier professional chamber choir in Dallas. Burnett is also Director of Choral Activities at the University of Texas Butler School of Music, where he conducts the UT Concert Chorale and guides the graduate program in choral conducting. Additionally, Burnett is the founding Artistic Director of Kinnara, Atlanta's premier professional chamber choir. Formerly, he was Associate Director of Choral Activities at the University of Georgia Hugh Hodgson School of Music. Burnett has served as Assistant Director of the Dallas Symphony Chorus, conductor of the New Jersey Youth Chorus Young Men's Ensemble, Associate Conductor of the Masterwork Chorus of New Jersey, and Acting Director of Choral Activities at Montclair State University. Earlier posts include Interim Director of Choral Activities at San Jose State University, Artistic Director of the New Jersey Chamber Singers, Music Director of the Houston Masterworks Chorus, and Founder of Men's Consort Houston. He also served as Choral Editor at McGraw-Hill, Inc. Burnett did undergraduate study at Stanford University and Oklahoma State University. He holds advanced degrees in choral conducting from Westminster Choir College and the University of North Texas.



Jefferson Johnson is Director of Choral Activities at the University of Kentucky where he was recently named Endowed Professor of Choral Music. At UK Johnson conducts the University Chorale and Men's Chorus. He also teaches advanced choral conducting, choral methods and literature, and directs the graduate program (MM and DMA degrees) in choral music. In 2017 Johnson was the third recipient of the "Distinguished Choral Alumnus Award" from the University of Colorado. University of Kentucky choirs under Johnson's direction have performed at thirty conventions of choral music educators, including national conventions of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA), National Collegiate Choral Organization (NCCO), Music Educators National Conference (NAfME), and Intercollegiate Male Choruses (IMC). Most recently the UK Men's Chorus was featured at the 2023 Kentucky Music Educators Conference, and at the 2022 ACDA Southern Region Convention (Raleigh, NC), the 2020 ACDA Southern Region Conference (Mobile, AL) as well as in performance at the 2018 ACDA Southern Division Convention (Louisville), the 2015 ACDA National Convention (Salt Lake City), the 2013 NCCO National Convention (Charleston, SC), the 2012 ACDA Southern Division Convention (Winston-Salem), and the 2011 ACDA National Convention (Chicago). The UK Chorale appeared as featured performers at Carnegie Hall in March of 2023. The Chorale has toured internationally and has also appeared at the 2024 and 2016 ACDA Southern Region Conventions.



Betsy Cook Weber is active internationally as a conductor, clinician, adjudicator, and lecturer. She taught Vocal Music K-12 for the first thirteen years of her career. She is the Madison Endowed Professor of Music Emeritus and former Director of Choral Studies at the University of Houston Moores School of Music. Under her direction, the University of Houston Concert Chorale was featured at numerous state and national conferences and won top prizes at prestigious competitions in Wales, France, Germany (2), Hungary, Italy, Norway, the Netherlands, and Austria. The Chorale enjoyed a world-wide ranking of #1 among choirs consisting of singers under the age of 24 and was listed in the top ten of Distinguished Collegiate Choirs. Director Emeritus of the Houston Symphony Chorus, during her tenure the chorus performed with some of the world's leading orchestral conductors and toured in the Czech Republic, Poland, and Germany. She is Artistic Director Designate of the Grammy Award-winning Houston Chamber Choir. Weber provides singers for Ars Lyrica and Mercury Houston, as well as for touring shows, including Josh Groban, Andreas Bocelli, and Eric Whitacre. In 2013, she became the thirteenth person and first woman to receive the TCDA's coveted Texas Choirmaster Award. Her degrees are from the University of North Texas, Westminster Choir College, and the University of Houston.

