



To: Tennessee High School Choral Directors
From: Brian Russell, TNACDA State CPA Coordinator
Re: 2024 High School State Choral Performance Assessment

Greeting Colleagues,

I hope this message finds you having a good school year with your choral program. I feel blessed every day to be able to work as a choir director and am so proud of the excellent choral programs across our state. The activities of our regional TMEA affiliate vocal associations, and organizations like ACDA have contributed significantly to my professional growth, and on behalf of all the TNACDA Leadership, we want to continue to enhance the choral art into the future.

The High School State Choral Performance Assessment (State CPA), formerly known as the State Choral Festival, is one way that TNACDA fosters the choral arts for our students. This year's State CPA will be held April 18-19 in Murfreesboro and Knoxville. Our adjudicators this year are **Elizabeth Hearn** (University of Mississippi), **Jan Taylor** (Retired - Prairie View A&M University, TX), and **Christopher Walters** (The Westminster Schools, GA). You can read their full biographies at TNACDA.org.

There are four avenues by which your choirs can gain eligibility for the State CPA:

- 1) Choirs who received a Superior at their regional assessment event are guaranteed a spot at that year's State CPA. Their schedule requests will be honored first in the order in which they were received.
- 2) Choirs who participated and received a Superior at the previous year's State CPA but who were unable to participate in a regional assessment event in the current year will be automatically eligible but not guaranteed a spot at the State CPA. Their schedule requests will be honored second in the order in which they were received until all spots are full.
- 3) Choirs who participated and received a Superior at the previous year's State CPA but participated and did not receive a Superior in a regional assessment event in the current year will be automatically eligible but not guaranteed a spot at the State CPA. Their schedule requests will be honored third in the order in which they were received until all spots are full.
- 4) Any remaining spots will be filled with choirs who did not receive a Superior at the previous

year's State CPA and did not participate or receive a Superior at this year's regional assessment event, filled in the order in which their registration was received.

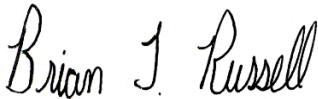
Choirs can register at the "High School State Choral Performance Assessment" tab of **TNACDA.org**. The deadline to register is Friday, March 22. If your choir is guaranteed a spot (#1 above), go ahead and mail your payment or pay online. If not, register online but don't mail a check or pay online for those choirs yet. You'll receive an email from me around March 27 confirming which choirs have been scheduled, after which you can mail a check or pay online. The fee for each choir is \$178 and the Online Registration contains more details about payments.

Schedule for the events will be posted the week of March 25.

Please email me at russellb@rcschools.net with any questions!

Objective critiques are the lifeblood of improvement, both for directors and ultimately for the benefit of our students. The ratings are secondary. Receiving suggestions for how we can continually improve is the real objective, and the prestige of singing at the State event can provide an additional motivation for choristers. We hope you will seriously consider taking part.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brian J. Russell".

Brian Russell, D. Mus. A.
Choral Director
Stewarts Creek High School
TNACDA State CPA Coordinator