

## **Minutes from TMEA Region 25 HS Vocal Division Meeting August 23, 2008**

The meeting was called to order by Steve Garms, High School Vocal Division Chair.

The Middle School Division joined the High School for the nomination of a Vocal Vice President of TMEA. Mr. Garms asked for nominations. Joe Weir, Sean Pullen, and Derrick Brookins were all nominated, followed by a movement to close the nominations, which passed unanimously. Three members spoke on behalf of the nominees. Members voted by show of hands. These votes were tallied by Steve Garms and Cathy Koziatek, and Derrick Brookins was elected to be the Region 25 Nominee for Vocal Vice President of TMEA.

Congratulations were extended to McKinney ISD directors Cindy Johnston and Candance McCullough on the selection of the Evans MS Varsity Women's Choir to perform at TMEA 2009. Also representing Region 25 at TMEA is the A Cappella Women's Choir of Plano Senior High School under the direction of Derrick Brookins and Chris Ahrens. At this point the Middle School directors left for their divisional meeting.

Each member present introduced themselves as there were many new members present.

Executive Secretary Randy Bartlett joined the meeting for an update. Mr. Bartlett advised members to be informed about the FCC as they may try to put restrictions on the use of wireless microphones. Mr. Bartlett also directed members to the Region 25 website for clarification on issues such as varsity ranking. He assured the members that he will help when UIL Concert and Sight-reading entries are slightly late and not apply a penalty fee. There will also be no penalties for withdrawals from contest as these usually stem from ineligibility of choir members. Mr. Bartlett reminded the members to be vigilant in checking student eligibility. Those with late UIL Solo and Ensemble entries will be charged a \$10 late entry fee. Mr. Bartlett informed members of the decision that students who are disqualified because of partial completion of solos or lacking accompaniment may still receive feedback from the judge if the judge is comfortable giving feedback. Mr. Bartlett clarified that ensembles do not have to be memorized and reminded members that he is always available and willing to call the state office for further clarification of guidelines when needed.

Minutes from the August 25, 2007 meeting were reviewed by Bethany Green. The minutes were e-mailed to directors last May. As there were no objections, the minutes stand as posted.

Michael Bryson, HS Vocal Division Treasurer, gave the division financial report, which had not changed since the May meeting. If any director would like another copy of the report, please e-mail Mr. Bryson. The fee structure established for 2007-2008 will continue for the 2008-2009 school year.

At this point each member received a notebook containing, among other things, the agenda which was reviewed with its reminders about TMEA membership, All-State performance notes, and volunteering at the TMEA Convention. The membership reviewed the audition times and dates, and members were asked to recommend judges for All-Region auditions. Mr. Garms

presented Amy Allibon's preference that the All-Region Treble Choir perform Basler's "Alleluia" without the Mixed Choir women. Barnett's "Sanctus" may or may not be performed depending on the availability of a capable blue grass band. Z. Randall Stroope was announced to be next year's All-Region Mixed Choir clinician, with the possibility of a commissioned work to be discussed at a later meeting.

Mr. Garms proceeded to the Handbook, pointing out additions and corrections. Members are asked to read the Handbook and to be informed about all contests and auditions. Most additions to the Handbook accomplish the goal of describing more accurately what the Region already practices. The following notable changes were made to the Handbook:

- Directors, not the Region, are responsible for the financial compensation of a proxy, who will not be considered a guest judge.
- At Phase 1 women may be divided into three rooms, in which case fourteen will be selected from each room.
- The clinician and Executive Committee, rather than the general membership, will select additional concert pieces for the Region Concert.
- At auditions, results will be posted as they are tallied rather than reviewed by directors first.
- Judges must select the allotted number of audition singers in a section and may not certify fewer than the stated number.
- The membership will submit names of potential clinicians to the Region Chair before the February Meeting. The Executive Committee will review submissions and secure clinician services.

Mr. Bryson made a motion to ratify the new Vocal Division Handbook. Many seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The membership glanced through the new Appendix to the Handbook which contains a description of the registration process, dates, times, locations, maps, and many other details of this year's auditions. Mr. Garms stressed the fact that the projected details may be superseded by more detailed information communicated via email prior to the audition. The membership discussed the decision to sequester students at All-Region and Pre-Area Auditions. Ms. Cathy Koziatek explained the organization of onsite lunch during the All-Region clinic day. Boxed lunches will be available from Panera for \$7.50 with several food options. Order forms will be sent out and payments and orders will due on a date still to be announced. Checks will be made out to Region 25 Vocal Division.

Any member wishing to audition for the solo in Dan-u-el must submit a recording by November 1; see the TMEA website for details.

Mr. Garms pointed the directors' attention to the Code of Ethics in Southwestern Musician as a standard to which programs should be held. Before adjourning he reminded the membership that the cuts for Phase 1 and Phase 2 of All-Region are not the same. Also, in order to certify a piece for All-State it must merely be prepared, not necessarily performed.

The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Garms.

Respectfully submitted,

Bethany Green, TMEA Region 25 High School Vocal Division Secretary