



NORTH TEXAS CHORAL CLASSIC

As a service to the DFW Metroplex, American Classic Tours and Music Festivals is pleased to present the

2023 NORTH TEXAS CHORAL CLASSIC

***Non-Competitive UIL Preparatory Event
Designed for High School Mixed, Men's and Women's Choirs
Varsity or Non-Varsity***

Evaluation: A two person panel will provide detailed, written comments designed to facilitate the choir's continuing preparations for a satisfying and successful UIL experience.

Clinic: (40 minutes in length) Clinicians will be assigned according to director preferences when possible but of necessity will remain in a three-person rotation order throughout the day. Thus, addressing scheduling needs will affect the assignment of clinicians to specific choirs.

Recording: A CD recording will be made for each performing group.

Scores: Three (3) sets of scores are required—two for the evaluators and one for the clinician. On the front of the score, please indicate whether or not the evaluators may mark the scores in pencil as they listen.

Dress: concert attire is encouraged but not required.

Fees: \$395 per group. In order to secure performance times and choice of

clinician, there is a \$100 non-refundable registration fee per group which will be applied toward the total fees.

Performance Time Assignments: Assigned on a first come first serve basis. Please email sally@amclass.com prior to registration for availability of times. Performance times will be confirmed when the appropriate registration fees and forms have been received.

Changes: No changes in performance times will be made after **January 20, 2023** or when the schedule is full, whichever comes first.

Music Selection: Perform two or three selections from the choir's UIL repertoire during the allotted 20 minute time slot.

Performance Options: Because this is a non-competitive, educational event, it is acceptable to perform portions of a longer work or to perform on solfege or neutral syllables according to each choir's stage of development in perfecting their repertoire.

Saturday, April 1, 2023

8:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Site Coordinator: Shawn Bell

Site Hosts: Megan Sisk & Selby Thomas

Site: Chisholm Trail HS Fort Worth

CLINICIANS

- * Joshua Brown
- * Jeffery Goolsby
- * Betsy Cook Weber

EVALUATORS

- * Reginal Wright
- * Jed Ragsdale

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Call for more information:

1-800-733-8384
www.amclass.com

Joshua Brown joined the faculty at Ouachita as Director of Choral Activities in 2019 where he teaches courses in choral music, conducting, music education and voice. Dr. Brown previously served as director of the University of North Texas Men's Chorus, artistic director of the Coppell Community Chorale and director of choirs at Coppell High School and Abilene High School. His choirs have performed at the White House, Texas Music Educators Convention and Southwestern American Choral Directors Convention. He also has served as in a leadership capacity in TMEA Regions 16, 20 and 31 and regularly serves as a choral adjudicator, clinician, or accompanist.

Additionally, Dr. Brown serves as music director at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Hot Springs Village, Arkansas and has served as a worship leader for numerous churches. Dr. Brown earned a Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in choral conducting with a related field in vocal pedagogy from the University of North Texas, a master's degree in choral conducting from Baylor University and a Bachelor of Church Music degree from Dallas Baptist University.



Jeffery Goolsby is Director of Choral Studies at Abilene Christian University, where he leads a program dedicated to artistic excellence, transformational musical experiences, and high-impact community engagement. He conducts the university's premiere choral ensemble, the A Cappella Chorus, conducts the University Chorale, and oversees three student-led contemporary a cappella groups. The ACU choral music program engages students from diverse academic, social, racial, and economic backgrounds. More than half of the program is comprised of non-music majors.

Dr. Goolsby teaches courses in choral conducting and choral methods and supervises the choral music education program. Prior to joining the ACU faculty, he taught for ten years in successful high school choral music programs in the Dallas and Houston areas. Choirs under his direction have performed at notable venues in the United States and abroad. He is in demand as a clinician, consultant, and adjudicator throughout the state and has served in numerous regional and state capacities with TMEA, ACDA, and UIL. He holds degrees in choral conducting and music education from Texas Tech University, Louisiana State University, and Abilene Christian University, where he was named a University Scholar. Professional affiliations include ACDA, NCCO, TMEA, TCDA, TMAA, and Pi Kappa Lambda



Betsy Cook Weber is Professor of Music and Director of Choral Studies at the University of Houston's Moores School of Music and is also active internationally as a conductor, clinician, adjudicator, and lecturer. Weber also served for the past eight seasons as Director of the Houston Symphony Chorus. In that role, she prepared choral-orchestral masterworks for some of the world's greatest conductors. Choirs under Weber's direction have been featured at multiple state (TMEA 2002, 2005, 2008, 2013, 2017) and national conventions (ACDA 2007 and 2017 and NCCO 2017).

Internationally, Weber has led choirs in performances with orchestras in the Czech Republic, Poland, and Germany and to top prizes at prestigious competitions in Wales, France, Germany, Hungary, Norway and Italy. Weber routinely prepares singers for Houston's early music orchestras Ars Lyrica and Mercury Houston, as well as preparing singers for touring shows, including Josh Groban, the Eagles, NBC's Clash of the Choirs, Telemundo's Latin Grammy's, Star Wars in Concert, Andreas Bocelli, and Harry Potter. In 2013, Weber became the 1st woman to receive TCDA's Texas Choirmaster Award. She is editor of the Betsy Cook Weber choral series with Alliance Music Publishing. Before coming to the University of Houston, Weber taught vocal music, K-12, in the public schools. She holds degrees from the University of North Texas, Westminster Choir College (Princeton, NJ), and the University of Houston.



Reginal Wright is a clinician, composer, conductor, and educator from Arlington, Texas. He currently teaches at Mansfield High School where his choirs are consistent Sweepstakes winners in concert and sightreading contests as well as winner of "Outstanding in Class" festival awards. Choirs under his direction have performed at SWACDA (2012 & 2022) and TMEA (2018). As an educator, Reginal has earned many awards, including Outstanding Teacher, Who's Who Among America's Teachers and the Secondary Educator of the Year Award. His choral works have been performed by All State and invited Convention Choirs, including "Invictus", performed by the 2022 Texas All State Tenor-Bass



Choir and he has received commissions from middle school, high school, university, and professional choirs. His works are published and distributed through BriLee, Carl Fischer, Graphite, Hal Leonard, Oxford University Press, Santa Barbara Music Publishing and his own company, Reginal Wright Music.

As a conductor, he is a sought-after clinician in both middle school and high school. He has enjoyed the opportunity of conducting honor choirs throughout the United States. Reginal has performed throughout Europe and the United States. Reginal received both his Bachelor's degree and Master of Music Education degree from Stephen F. Austin State University.



Jed Ragsdale is entering his 25th year of teaching and year seven at Tomball Memorial High School. Prior to TMHS, Jed directed choirs at Cy-Fair HS, Jersey Village HS, and at Langham Creek HS. In 2004, his Varsity Men's Choir performed at the TMEA Convention. Ragsdale's choirs have performed in Los Angeles, NYC, Colorado, Florida, and have consistently earned Sweepstakes at UIL, as well as earned Best-in-Class and Grand Champion honors at state and national competitions. His choirs have also performed at the Baylor University, Sam Houston State University, and the University of Houston Choral Invitationals.

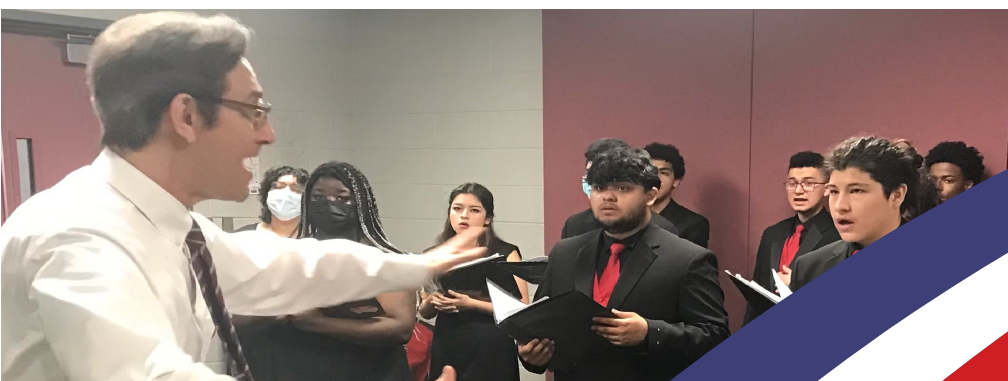
Jed Ragsdale is a past TMEA Vocal Division Vice-President, served the state as TMEA Clinic Coordinator, TMEA Facilities Chair, All-State Choir Organizer, All-State Choir Section Leader, Area E Chair, Area F Chair, Region 27 Vocal Division Chair, and the TCDA Hospitality Chair. Jed continues to serve Texas Choral Music as a frequent adjudicator, staff development provider, clinician, and guest conductor having conducted over 40 region or festival choirs.

Jed received a Bachelor of Music from Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas, studying with Dr. Kenny Sheppard, and a Master of Educational Leadership from Lamar University. He has two incredible children, Avery and Aidan.

CHORAL CLASSIC FESTIVALS ARE NON - COMPETITIVE

- ★ 40 minute motivational clinic
- ★ Score marking by 2 evaluators
- ★ Professional recording
- ★ Detailed comments on performance
- ★ Option of performing 2 or 3 pieces

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