



RIVERBEND CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

AUSTIN, TX

A Celebration of Excellence Specialty Choral Festival

Monday, April 13, 2026

Experience Choral Artistry Which Builds Community!

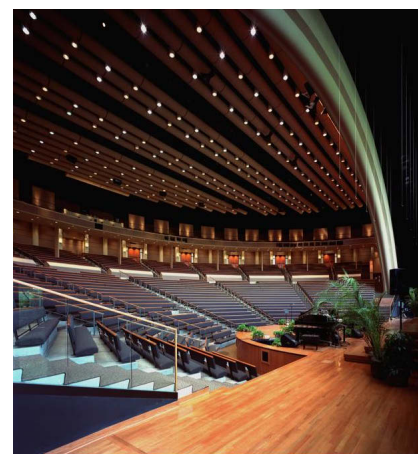
- Join other Varsity Mixed, Tenor Bass and Treble choirs on a day of sharing fine choral music.
- Celebrate each other's achievements during the concluding Awards Ceremony.
- Take home constructive comments & participation awards.
- Seek a special "Performance of Distinction" award.
- Compete for First Place and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Runner-Up trophies in each division.
- Strive for designation as a 2026 Varsity Mixed Honor Choir presenting the 2027 Honor Concert.

FESTIVAL STAFF

Site Coordinator: Sally Schott

American Classic Staff: Mark Buley, Becky Byers, Kyle Friesenhahn, Trina Solis, BriAnne Woodward

Adult Staff: Janice Bradshaw, Cindy Couch, Helen Miers, Malcolm Nelson, Kay Sherrill, Dr. Morris Stevens



2026 HONOR CHOIRS



Churchill Cambridge Chorale Women
Allison Cavazos & Rob Saldana, Directors



Midway Meistersingers
Caleb Overstreet, Director

Brandon T. Cash is recognized for his dedication to artistic excellence and student success. Director of Choral Activities and Assistant Professor of Music at Mississippi Valley State University, a Historically Black College and University, he conducts the University Choir, Valley Singers, Men's Glee Club, and Women's Chorale. Since 2019, Dr. Cash has revitalized the choral program. Under his leadership, the Valley Singers earned their first-ever invitation to perform at the 2025 Mississippi Music Educators Association and Mississippi American Choral Directors Association State Conference. The University Choir also gained national recognition with a performance at the 2022 National Collegiate Choral Organization Conference.



An active guest conductor, clinician, adjudicator, and presenter, Dr. Cash led the 2025 Mississippi All-State JH Treble Choir and has prepared ensembles for regional, national, and international performances. In March 2025, the Valley Singers competed in the 33rd International Verona Choral Competition in Italy and earned 2nd place (Silver Cup) in the mixed choir category. Dr. Cash's experience spans both K-12 and higher education, and he is known for guiding ensembles to high levels of artistry and performance. He currently serves on the National Board of the National Collegiate Choral Organization, Phi Mu Alpha, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and sings with The Greenwood Chorale.



Kristina Caswell MacMullen serves as the Mary Gibbs Jones Chair of Music and Director of Choral Activities at Baylor University. She conducts the Baylor A Cappella Choir, Chamber Singers, and leads the graduate program in choral conducting. Prior to her appointment at BU, MacMullen served on the faculties of the University of North Texas and The Ohio State University. Her interdisciplinary work earned her the Sir William Osler Award at OSU and the President's Special Recognition Award at UNT. MacMullen has also been recognized by TCDA for her innovation in programming.

As an active adjudicator and clinician, MacMullen has conducted All-State and honors choirs throughout the United States. She has presented and co-presented interest sessions at state, regional, national, and international conferences. Her teaching and conducting is featured on the recording *Conducting-Teaching: Real World Strategies for Success* published by GIA (2009). MacMullen has enjoyed a diverse career as a public-school teacher, interacting with students in rural, suburban, and urban settings, elementary through high school. She also sings with the professional ensemble mirabai. Creative projects include interdisciplinary performances addressing human trafficking, the Kubler-Ross stages of grief, play theory, Maslow's hierarchy of needs, archetype exploration, belonging, American song, civic engagement, and the nature of tears.



John Ratledge is Professor Emeritus of the University of Alabama where he was the conductor of University Singers, Area Coordinator of Graduate Choral Conducting, Director of Choral Activities, and he also taught graduate conducting, literature, and pedagogy. Ratledge made his European conducting debut in 1996 with the Filharmonia Sudecka of Walbryzychu, Poland, and since that time, he has conducted orchestras in France, Greece, Hungary, Romania, Spain, and South Korea.

His choirs have given the premiere of the full orchestral version of the Duruflé Requiem in Poland, Hungary, Romania, and Greece, the organ version premiere of same in Bulgaria, Bernstein's Chichester Psalms premiere in Poland, and the St. Petersburg, Russia's premiere of Handel's Messiah in English. Ratledge's compositions are published by Alliance Music Publications and Carl Fischer Music Publishers.



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