



2016 South Dakota Elementary Honor Choir

Presented by the

South Dakota Music Somea South Dakota Music Somea South Association Association

Síoux Falls Convention Center Síoux Falls, South Dakota

October 29th, 2016

3:30 pm

Kímberley Ahrens, Guest Conductor

19th Annual Elementary Honor Choir Program

Kimberley Ahrens, Guest Conductor Children's Chorus of Greater Dallas

Christopher Larson, Accompanist

A special thank you to each and every person involved in planning this event and participating in it. There are many volunteers that work year round to provide a memorable experience for the students that are selected. Your support and efforts are greatly appreciated.

Elementary Committee Members: Gina Mees and Kari Owens – Chairpersons

Kim Bruguier, Melissa Fikse, Lisa Zahn, Hillary Hill, Katie Opp

You'll Never Guess What I Saw Ruth Watson Henderson

Rise, Rise, Thou Merry Lark

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Dr. Boyd Perkins

from Three Dominican Folk Songs	arr. Francisco Nunez		A Federated State Association of
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arr. Ruth Elaine Schram



Elementary Honor Choir

The Elementary Honor Choir is in its 19th year. It is comprised of about 155 fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students that are selected by recorded audition. Only teachers who are SDMEA members may audition their students for this select choir. This event is being held in conjunction with All State Chorus and Orchestra and the SDMEA Conference this year. Gina Mees is in her first year chairing the event with Kari Owens as Chair-Elect. Auditions for next year's EHC are due in April. The choir roster is released online and via e-mail in mid-May. The students receive their music in late August and spend the next two months preparing for this memorable event.



To provide more music opportunities for SD elementary students and their teachers, SDMEA is hosting regional festival choruses throughout the state. This year will be the 8th year and will take place on Monday, March 6th, 2017, as a kick off for Music In Our Schools Month (MIOSM). Mobridge, Gregory, Sturgis, Harrisburg, Mitchell, and Beresford have offered to host these events and their respective directors, Lisa Zahn, Katie Opp, Hillary Hill, Melissa Fikse, Kim Bruguier, and Gina Mees have agreed to help organize these memorable events. Directors that are SDMEA members are encouraged to select 20 per grade of their top 4th, 5th, and/or 6th graders and bring them to the nearest host city for a day long rehearsal with guest conductors from around the Midwest. There will be a concert that will be open to the public in the afternoon for parents, teachers, friends, and family members to enjoy the accomplishments of the choir and join in the singing. The deadline to register students for FC is December 20th. Please see the SDMEA website for more information and the registration form. Do not miss out on being part of the 8th annual SDMEA Festival Choir!



Kimberley Ahrens is in her twelfth year as Director of Choral Activities at Robinson Middle School in Plano, Texas, where she runs a highly successful middle school choral program, conducting over 300 students in a total of nine performing ensembles. Choirs under her direction have consistently received Sweepstakes awards at UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest and have also been very successful at various other competitions. In 2009, 2013, and 2015 the Varsity Treble Choir from Robinson was named the National Winner of the

Director's Choice Mark of Excellence National Choral Honors Project, and in 2013 the Varsity Mixed Choir also earned this honor. The Robinson Middle School Varsity Treble Choir was selected to perform at the 2013 Texas Music Educators Association Convention, and the Varsity Mixed Choir was selected to perform at the 2014 MS/IH National Choral Conference. In 2009, Kimberley received the Texas Choral Directors Association "Distinguished Young Director Award," and she was named Teacher of the Year at Robinson Middle School in 2013. In addition to her fulltime teaching duties, she has served as conductor for the Apprentice Chorus of The Children's Chorus of Greater Dallas since 2013, the Assistant Director of the Texas Christian University All-State Choir Camp since 2009, and as Director of Children's Choirs at Transfiguration Episcopal Church in Dallas since 2008. She also is an active clinician and adjudicator throughout the state of Texas. She has presented sessions at conventions of the Texas Music Educators Association and the Texas Choral Directors Association. Kimberley earned the Bachelor of Music Education degree with Vocal Emphasis from Texas Christian University, she holds certification in Kodály method from the University of North Texas. Her professional affiliations include the Texas Music Educators Association, American Choral Directors Association, Texas Choral Directors Association, and the Choristers Guild. Kimberley lives in McKinney, TX with her husband, Chris, daughter Katherine, and their two dogs, Jake and Bandit.



Chris Larson is currently the coach accompanist and music director at the University of South Dakota's Department of Theatre. He holds several degrees from that institution as well including a Bachelor of Music Education and Master's Degrees in Choral Conducting and Collaborative Piano. Chris also teaches private piano, voice, organ, sax, clarinet, and flute lessons in Vermillion, is the choir director, director of music, and organist at the Vermillion First United Methodist Church, and enjoys spending time during the summer playing percussion of woodwinds for the Vermillion Community Theatre. In between undergraduate and graduate degrees, he taught 5-12 band and high school choir in Scotland, SD, and high school band in Sioux Center, IA. In his free time, he freelances as a pianist, vocalist, clinician, and judge for regional music events.

2016 Elementary Honor Choir Members

*Denotes Music Teacher

+Denotes 3 Year Member

Beresford Elementary

Haleigh Stene Haidyn Lounsbery+ Mva Bak Shae Jones+ Maria Reaves Anna Soderborg Elena Andrews Kavla Jensen **Bethany Latendresse** Keely Merrigan Mason Heiberger Tessa Henderson Haley Huot Olivia Fry Landon Schurch Ellie Nothdurft Derek Maas Maiva Muller Jayden Carlson Larissa Tiedeman+ Emilee Wolf Madison Erickson Gaval Valder Lillian Traxler

Colman-Eagan

Larissa Lyle

Gina Mees*

Jenna Olson Paislev Rentschler Ronda Palmlund-Olson*

Custer Elementary

Abigail Studt Ella Allen Emma Arp Sadie Moore Megan Snyder Kendra Hiltunen Julionna Wilson Peyton Helfer Rachel Miklos Jody Tennyson*

Dakota Vallev

Pevton Machan+ Abby Pinkerman+ Silia Gunderson Emily Jumper+ Kenadi Kamradt Mia Pinkerman Sophia Schauff Emma Wiese Peyton Carlson Maggie Steele Brynn Van Diemen Eliana Vondracek Lexi Squier Stella Carlson Caden Smith **Emily Carlson** Aiden Keenan Madison Bell Reagan Granstrom Ashley Neeser Preston Carlson Karlee Hughes Lewis Pick Valerie Norby Rachael Knecht Lainee Evans **Byrgin Gunderson** Sean Benz*

Deubrook Area

Jada Colemer Madalyn Bauman **Jackson Timmons** Tammy Ruhd*

Herreid

Pausha Meidinger Julie Borr*

Ipswich

Alanna Wiedrich Sam Grabowska Graciella Lange Charlene Blondo*

Iones Co. School **Emmy Newsam** Hannah Brost **Jolie Dugan** Sage Waldron Tristen Host Jadyn Jensen Nicole Barnes*

Rose Comp*

LB Williams Elem.

Madilyn Bruguier Cella Nath Abbey Grajkowske Levi Loken Alexis Christenson Kimberly Bruguier*

Madison Christian

Kelsie Miller Melissa Miller*

McDonnell Music Studios

Ioscelvn Theisen Madelyn Caulfield Mattisyn McDonnell Tera McDonnell*

Mitchell Area Children's Choir

Ellie Palm Ella Cody Kimberly Bruguier*

Mitchell Christian

Keira Hofer+ Kathleen Liesinger*

Mobridge-Pollock

Elsv Larsen Grace Overland Lily LeFebre Logan Vetch Elizabeth Krause Gretchen Olson Sophia Overland Alexis Lipp Charley Henderson Lisa Zahn*

Mount Vernon

Katelvnn Laufman Sheridan Hansen Alexis Washburn-Garry*

Parkston Elementary Reese Reichert+ Kiauna Hargens+ Shelly Finck*

Piedmont Valley Elem. Marilyn Staab

Avery Fogelman **Brooklyn Brant Braydon Spear** Abigail Gaeta Natalie Alsup Anva Brady Emilee Fallon Annie Henderson Ciara Romey Paige Gorczewski Gretchen Henry Bricelyn Jenner Hannah Killinger Gabriel Reeve Audrey Scott Rebecca Fischer*

Sturgis Elementary

Addisyn Jolley Grace Bestgen **Kylee Phillips** Rachel Martin Aiden Lalicker Presley Johnson Morgan Jost Marty Iones Rebekah Hyman Aidan Wood Samantha Teigen Zabree Bush Leah Johnson-Landoll Emma Matthew Kashton Ford Iessica Teigen Hillary Hill*

Sturgis Williams Mid. Kathrine Sulzbach+

Ella Ward+ Havlee O'Connor Carlie Johnson+ Mya Jordan Jackson Ford+ Haley Snow+ Gabrielle Weiss Connie Feekes*

Viborg-Hurley Bailey Weegar

Giahna Miller Sharee Van Voorst*

Vermillion

Grace Chaussee Ella Simmons Trisha Fisher*

Whitewood Elem.

Ireland Nacev Amelia Knutson Rhese Balster+ Tava Sexton Virgil Brown Owen Udager Grace Hill Gary Nelson*

Wolsey-Wessington

Atara Richmond Cameron Cutshaw Rachel Halsev*