

50 REASONS TO CELEBRATE ACDA-MN's 50th ANNIVERSARY

#1 - ACDA-MN has a 50-year history of guiding and inspiring choral music in Minnesota, resulting in recognition as a center of choral music in the U.S.

#2 - ACDA-MN has a phenomenal volunteer spirit as its members are willing to serve and assist with promoting choral music in Minnesota.

#3 - ACDA-MN supports choral directors at every level. Elementary teachers through college/university and professional directors can find support and discover repertoire, plus learn about new choral techniques through ACDA publications and special projects.

#4 - ACDA-MN has had a powerful influence on the quality, repertoire, and leadership of choral music in schools, communities and churches.

#5 - ACDA-MN is the primary organization for young choral directors to dialogue with other veteran choral directors and other teachers new to the field.

#6 - With ACDA-MN's assistance, choral music has flourished within K-12 school programs, colleges, universities, churches and synagogues, communities, and the professional choir world.

#7 - ACDA-MN has experienced visionary leadership from 25 past state presidents.

#8 - One ACDA-MN member has served as ACDA National President, and six ACDA-MN members have served as ACDA North Central Division Presidents.

#9 - ACDA-MN offers unparalleled opportunities for personal and professional development.

#10 - Summer Dialogue...a week networking with colleagues, getting recharged, and watching masters in the field work with the All-State Choirs for the past 27 years!

#11 - ACDA-MN keeps us informed as to new advances in repertoire and technology.

#12 - The F. Melius Christiansen Endowment Fund was established in 1996 by ACDA-MN to guarantee a vibrant future for exemplary choral music in the state of Minnesota and has shown excellent growth during its 15-year history.

#13 - Since the FMC Endowment Fund's inception, a total of 188 Minnesota choral directors have been the recipients of \$121,270 in scholarship awards.

#14 - ACDA-MN has provided special opportunities for choral directors and their singers to participate, perform and listen to excellent choral music throughout the state of Minnesota.

#15 - ACDA-MN is the only state organization to host a World Symposium on Choral Music (Minneapolis, 2002) in the United States.

#16 - Curtis Hansen, one of ACDA's seven founding members in 1959, was a member of ACDA-MN.

#17 - Three ACDA-MN members (Olaf Christiansen, Murrae Freng & Curtis Hansen) were among the 111 charter members of ACDA when it was founded in 1959.

#18 - The 125th (1996) and 135th (2006) Anniversary Concerts, which celebrated the birth year of F. Melius Christiansen, showcased a collaboration of six outstanding collegiate a cappella choirs.

#19 - René Clausen, an ACDA-MN member, choral director and composer, is gifting a major choral work to ACDA-MN in honor of its 50th anniversary which will be premiered on November 18, 2012, on the concert entitled: ***A Golden Grand Finale***

#20 - ACDA-MN's F. Melius Christiansen Endowment Fund received a one-of-a-kind matching gift of \$100,000 in 2007 from the Minnesota-owned Wenger Foundation.

#21 - Six ACDA-MN members are inductees on the ACDA National Wall of Honor. They are: F. Melius Christiansen, Olaf C. Christiansen, Paul J. Christiansen, Curtis E. Hansen, Paul O. Manz and Leland B. Sateren.

#22 - One ACDA-MN member, Dale Warland, received ACDA National's highest award in 2007, the Robert Shaw Choral Award.

#23 - Seven ACDA-MN members have been awarded the Weston H. Noble Lifetime Achievement Award in Choral Music, which is ACDA North Central Division's highest award.

#24 - ACDA-MN's F. Melius Christiansen Endowment Fund received a gift of \$90,000 from the Sixth World Symposium in Choral Music in 2002 after it netted a profit.

#25 - ACDA-MN promotes an understanding about the importance of choral music in all Minnesota schools and communities.

#26 - ACDA-MN members served for four years as the Steering Committee for planning the Sixth World Symposium on Choral Music held in Minneapolis during August, 2002.

#27 - ACDA-MN and the Minnesota Music Educators Association have co-commissioned 37 choral selections for the Minnesota All-State Choirs.

#28 - ACDA-MN offers a Student & Young Conductors' Symposium annually for its collegiate membership.

#29 - Our state newsletter, *Star of the North*, has been awarded the ACDA National State Newsletter Award eight times. Awards were received in 1991, 1997, 1999, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009 and 2011.

#30 - In 2011 the ACDA-MN was the first state to receive an ACDA National Award for the state with the Most Outstanding Website. (ACDA-MN has two informative websites - ACDA-MN and the F. Melius Christiansen Endowment Fund.)

#31 - ACDA-MN has created and produced 36 state fall conferences.

#32 - ACDA-MN hosted four past ACDA North Central Conferences in Minneapolis during 1978, 1988, 1998 and 2010.

#33 - Five Minnesota choirs have been selected to perform on several World Symposia on Choral Music which have been held throughout the world.

#34 - 23 Minnesota choirs have appeared on ACDA National Conference programs.

#35- 108 Minnesota choirs have appeared on ACDA North Central Division Conference programs.

#36 - Two ACDA-MN members have served on the International Federation for Choral Music's board comprised of 20 international members. Philip Brunelle served on the IFCM board from 2005-2011, was re-elected to the board for another term from 2011-2017 and is currently serving as the Vice-President of the IFCM Executive Committee. Diana J. Leland served for ten years (1989-1993 and 1996-2002) as a member of the IFCM board and for three years as an International Advisor (1993-1996).

#37 - *Star of the North* was selected in 2011 as the state newsletter with the most professional layout design.

#38 - ACDA-MN annually honors its membership with presentations of a Young Choral Director's Award, Minnesota Choral Director Award and the F. Melius Christiansen Lifetime Achievement Award.

#39 - In 2010, ACDA-MN organized its first Commissioning Task Force. It has commissioned four pieces for ACDA-MN honor choirs and two pieces for SATB (2011) and SSA (2012) consortium choirs, comprised of singers from throughout the state.

#40 - Pick Six repertoire lists (numbering 1,700 octavos) have been helpful to many directors during the past 21 years.

#41 - ACDA-MN's annual Men's/Women's Choral Festival with 800+ singers in a nationally unique musical and educational experience with a dozen collegiate choirs and two massed gender-based choirs!

#42 - ACDA-MN hosted its first Minnesota Collegiate Choral Festival in November 2009 that showcased five collegiate choirs and featured the premiere of a commissioned choral work by Minnesota native Eric William Barnum, which was conducted by Craig Jessop.

#43 - Since 1988 ACDA-MN has offered 54 honor choir opportunities for students in grades 4-12.

#44 - The members of ACDA-MN are interested in helping *everyone* who teaches singers to be successful.

#45 - ACDA-MN became a 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt organization in February, 1996, as per a ruling from the Internal Revenue Service.

#46 - ACDA-MN has archived materials from the past 50 years carefully collected and preserved by past historians Wayne Kivell and Katherine Doepke.

#47 - We should celebrate ACDA-MN's 50th anniversary because it brings together singers who may never meet each other in this world if it were not for ACDA offering incredible honor choir and festival experiences.

#48 - ACDA-MN has afforded its members many opportunities to attend Minnesota, North Central Division and National ACDA Conferences with performances by many of the finest choral ensembles in the world!

#49 - As ACDA-MN members, we have developed personal and professional lifetime relationships and friendships with other choral directors.

#50 - ACDA-MN members have a good sense of humor! There is always time for fun, fellowship, laughter and sharing.