

Dr. Ben Keller, Lakes High School, Lakewood, WA
Bio

Benjamin T. Keller came to Lakes High School in the fall of 1987 as Director of Choral Activities and Music Department Coordinator. At Lakes he conducts over 200 students in six choral classes. He holds the Bachelor of Arts in Education and Master of Music degrees from Pacific Lutheran University and the Doctor of Musical Arts degree with a major in Choral Conducting and a minor in Music Education from the University of Arizona. He has studied conducting with Maurice Skones, Jerry Kracht, Edward Harmic, John Bloom, Eric Ericson, Bruce Browne, Wilber Elliott and Richard Nace. He has studied voice with Edward Harmic, William Sare, David Majoros, Jerold Siena, Sam Smith, and Grayson Hirst, and music theory/history with Joseph Schwantner, Vicki King, Calvin Knapp, David Robbins, David Dahl, John Boe and Edward Murphy.

Dr. Keller has wide experience in all aspects of choral music, having directed church choirs and taught music on all levels for forty years. He directed the Gloriana Chamber Singers, a semi-professional choral group in Tacoma, for five seasons. His groups have consistently received superior ratings at contests and festivals and have performed at state and regional conferences of the American Choral Directors Association, Music Educators National Conference, and the American Guild of Organists National Convention.

Dr. Keller has served on state and regional boards for MENC and ACDA, currently serving as president of the Mountain Region of Washington Music Educators Association. He has served as adjudicator and clinician for workshops and festivals throughout the western United States and in Alaska.

In 1999, Dr. Keller was selected as the certificated Employee of the Year for the Clover Park School District. In 2000 and again in 2006, he was selected as the Outstanding Music Educator for the Mountain Region of the Washington Music Educators Association. In 2004, he received the Roots and Wings award from the United Methodist Church of Lakewood, given annually for dedication to improving the lives of children and youth.