

Lakes High School Concert Choir
Dr. Ben Keller, Conductor

The Concert Choir is the most advanced of six class sections of choral music at Lakes High School, located southwest of Tacoma, Washington in the city of Lakewood.

At the annual Washington Music Educators Association Mountain Region (formerly South Puget Sound League) Choral Festival, the choir earned forty-six consecutive Superior (I) ratings since 1963, a streak unmatched in the state of Washington. The choir is invited on a regular basis to sing at festivals and special performances across the United States. The choir has performed concerts in such venues as Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and Washington National Cathedral in Washington D.C., Orchestra Hall in Chicago, Davies War Memorial Symphony Hall, St. Ignatius Church and St. Mary's Cathedral in San Francisco, Libby Gardner and Maurice Abravanel Halls in Salt Lake City, St. John's Cathedral and Meany Hall in Seattle, Pantages and Lagerquist Halls in Tacoma, and Cathedral of the Holy Rosary in Vancouver, B.C.

In March of 2006, the group performed at the Northwest Division Convention of the American Choral Directors Association. This was the most recent of several appearances at state and regional conferences for ACDA and the Music Educators National Conference (MENC) dating to 1970.

In April 2007, the choir performed at the National Invitational Choral *Festival of Gold* for the seventh time since 1994, finishing first in a field of thirty-five performing group from all across the United States. The Concert Choir also won the event in 2005. In January 2006, the Concert Choir sang for the opening joint session of the Washington State Legislature at the State Capitol in Olympia. The choir has premiered major choral works by noted composers Richard Nance and Donna Gartman Schultz.

In addition to its musical achievements, the singers at Lakes have a sense of pride, purpose, and responsibility that has placed the program in a position of high esteem within the life of the school and the community.