



Hearts All Whole

NORTHWESTERN ACDA CONFERENCE 2022 ♥ SPOKANE, WASHINGTON ♥ MARCH 9-12

Call for Nominated Choirs: “Getting to the Heart” Discovery Sessions

Celebrating Process, Innovation, Community, and Mission

1) Recommendations Due: April 15, 2021

2) State & NW ACDA Leadership Nominations Due: May 1, 2021

3) Discovery Session Applications Due: June 1, 2021

Overview: “Getting to the Heart” Discovery Sessions

These sessions celebrate the journey of creative, human-centered rehearsal processes that foster community, and/or mission beyond that of the music-making in and of itself. Choirs presenting a Discovery Session may combine ensemble singing, information sharing, demonstration of process, multimedia sharing, and/or ensemble members sharing experiences of community-building, compassion, or mission. These 25-minute sessions will share how choral music becomes a vehicle for any of the following:

- **Innovation** in rehearsal, outreach, collaboration, teaching, and/or musical focus
- A particular focus on **equitable community-building** through choral music
- **An extra-musical mission** that is central to the group’s existence
- “Fostering and promoting choral singing in the pursuit of **peace and justice** that enhances **social and emotional well-being**” ([National ACDA Purposes](#))
- “Fostering and promoting **diversity and inclusion** through active engagement with underrepresented choral musicians and potential choral participants” ([National ACDA Purposes](#))

These Discovery Sessions intentionally create a space between Interest Sessions and Concert Sessions that will provide attendees a window into the processes behind what make these ensembles distinctive in an [acoustically beautiful and accessible space](#).

The **nomination process** aims to address these application barriers for nominated choirs:

- The cost of the audition application (free)
- Lack of logistical support to appear at a conference
- Difficulty in producing high quality recordings due to poor venues, equipment, or the pandemic
- Ensembles who believe they do not fit the historical model of an ACDA conference choir
- Ensembles for which it may be a challenge to prepare a 25-minute set of repertoire

Recommendation & Nomination Process:

Nominations due April 15 (State and NW ACDA Leadership nominations due May 1)

- **NW ACDA Members are also encouraged to send self- or peer-recommendations** to these nominators by emailing them directly by April 15: <https://www.nwacda.org/leadership>
- Nominators include:
 - NW ACDA Board Repertoire & Resource Chairs
 - State ACDA Leadership (Presidents, Presidents-Elect, and Past-Presidents)
 - State ACDA Repertoire & Resource Chairs
- Nominators will identify conductors/ensembles and nominate them to apply.
- These nominators will **partner with and support** ensembles throughout the nomination process.
- R & R Chair/State President nominators will submit a short summary of the recommendation.
- For nominated choirs invited to perform on a “Getting to the Heart” Discovery Session, **the leader/conductor must be an ACDA member at the time they accept the invitation**. Leaders are not required to be members at the time of application, though membership is encouraged.

Application Materials: Due June 1, 11:59 pm PDT

Leaders of Nominated Choirs apply with a nominated choir application. The leader submits:

- **A short description** of the ensemble’s impact (e.g. mission statement or description, what distinguishes its approach, distinctive goals of conductor and ensemble, overall impact of program on the lives of singers and their community)
- **Description of focus** on what will be presented, including general repertoire description
- **Ensemble demographic** questionnaire
- **One or more material(s)** that demonstrates the ensemble’s impact, which may include:
 - Rehearsal audio/video,
 - Promotional audio/video,
 - Website or print materials,
 - Singer testimonials, and/or
 - Performance audio/video
- **Optional** additional materials that may contextualize activity:
 - Performance programs
 - Repertoire lists

Expenses: Invited nominated choirs will be responsible for costs of presenting at the conference, such as travel and lodging. NW ACDA acknowledges the financial barriers to presenting or performing at a conference. As such, we are committed to provide ensemble leaders with fundraising strategists, who can provide assistance. There is the potential that limited funding may be available from state ACDA organizations or NW ACDA to support participation by ensembles, but due to the pandemic, this financial support will not be known until summer 2021.

Nomination Results will be emailed to applicants by June 30, 2021.

Questions? Contact NW ACDA President-Elect Steven Zielke: president-elect@nwacda.org