

2019

The 2nd

Washington International

Choral Festival

October 11-13, 2019

Rachel. M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center
4915 East Campus Drive, Alexandria, VA 22311, U.S.A.

<https://www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/>



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Washington Care Foundation
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Registration please contact: 202-320-0750 / 703-992-5421

The 2nd Washington International Choral Festival

**At Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Art Center, VA
(October 11 - 13, 2019)**

Washington D.C., as the capital of the United States of America, with her unique historical atmosphere and elegant ethos, as well as its diverse culture, is an irreplaceable spiritual symbol of the nation. The gorgeous October, the prime time of autumn, is the most beautiful of seasons in the city. The blue sky is washed, the land is covered with golden leaves, the air is filled with free melodies, the flowers send forth a delicate romantic fragrance, and the song of the Washington International Choir Festival will for sure highlight the season to its perfectness!

The Washington International Choir Festival is an event to give people of different cultural backgrounds a special convergence in our unique ways. Here, people who love chorus art gather together, learn from each other, listen to each other, and make our tunes richer and more diversified.

Join us, friends! Welcome to the 2nd Washington International Choir Festival. Let's sing out loud with this city!



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Co-Chair

Xiaohui He, Diantao Sun

Artistic Director

Guanghui Chen



The Art Council

Guanghui Chen, Stan Engebretson, Mei Zhong , Lynn Staininger, Enyi Shi



Schedule

Oct. 11, Friday – Registration; Opening reception; Dress rehearsal;

Oct. 12, Saturday Morning -- Washing Sightseeing Tour; Saturday Afternoon and Evening -- Preliminaries, finals (in the afternoon and evening)

Oct. 13, Sunday morning -- Washing Sightseeing Tour, Sunday afternoon -- Expert's Workshop (and Vocal Music Master's Seminar) in which all choral members can get opportunities of tutelage from experts.

Sunday evening -- Awards Ceremony & Closing Concert



Competition

The competition will not be categorized into groups. Each choir should have no less than 16 members, and the performing duration is limited to 12 minutes. Singing repertoire of

each choir should include at least one piece showing their national characteristics and one piece of acappella.



Accompaniment

Chorus can be performed only with piano accompaniment or with no accompaniment. No recorded accomplishment is accepted. However, for songs with ethnic characteristics

the accompaniment can be added by their national instruments.



Artistic requirements and standards

1. All choral repertoire for the competition must be approved by the Art Council.

2. The definition of the national music works are those in a native or minority language from the home country.

3. The actual singing duration refers to the time from the beginning to the end of the singing, excluding the time of entry and exit of the stage.



Rubric

The judges' measurement will be based on: the choral performing skill (rhythm, tempo and intonation), timbre (tone, sound quality, sound balance and harmony), artistic style (musical expressiveness, music score authenticity) and comprehensive evaluation (Stage presence, costumes and etiquette). Each evaluation is up to 10 points, the score is accurate to 1 digit after the decimal point. The judges' scores are summed up for an average score of the choir.



Registration

Registration deadline: September 1, 2019

The registration fee will be halved by June 1, 2019

Registration includes:

- Registration form (provided by the Festival Organizing Committee);
- Registration fee (\$250 per choir);
- Chinese and English resumes, choir performance photos and demo videos;
- Completion score (5 each)

Send Your Application To:

North American choirs can send directly to the festival committee:

DCgjhcy@gmail.com

Or 202-320-0750 (C) 、 703-992-5421 (C)

Contact: Diantao Sun、 Lihui Zhang

Washington International Choir Festival website:

<http://www.carefoundation.us>



Judge introduction



Mr. Guanghui Chen

As a nationally recognized, first-class conductor, Mr. Chen graduated from Shanghai Conservatory of Music and Central Conservatory of Music. In 2001, he used to take the International Choir Conductor Master Class in Vienna National Conservatory of Music. He had the privilege to study vocal music, choral and orchestra conducting with Zhilan Gao, Geshun Ma, Hongnian Yang, Lingfen Wu, all famous music educators in China.

His titles include: Member of World Choir Council, Vice President of Chinese Chorus Association, Director of the Mass Chorus Committee of CCA; President of Guangdong Chorus Association, President of Shenzhen Chorus Association; Artistic Director & Permanent Conductor of Shenzhen Star Bright Choir, Artistic Director of Shenzhen Longhua Teachers Choir and Shenzhen Guangming Teachers Choir. In recent years, he has been frequently invited as an adjudicator for many international chorus competitions, including World Choir Games, European Choir Games, Asian Pacific Choir Games, China Choir Festival, and Beijing International Choir Festival, etc. He has organized many choral arts lectures and training workshops for the next generation of conductors. His pedagogic projects have won him a strong reputation in both China and abroad. He founded the annual Guangdong International Choral Conductor Symposium, "Sound of South China," a famous program consisting of concerts and lectures in both China and abroad.



Dr. Stan Engebretson

Stan Engebretson came to the greater Washington area in 1990 to become the Director of Choral Studies and Professor of Music at George Mason University. In 1991, he assumed the Director of Music position at the historic New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington. In 1994, Dr. Engebretson was named as the Director of the Masterworks Chorus and Orchestra, the forerunner to his position as Artistic Director of the Chorale with the National Philharmonic (2005). Previously, he held similar academic and professional positions in Minnesota and Texas. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees in piano and voice from the University of North Dakota, and a Doctor of Musical Arts from Stanford University.

A frequent guest conductor and clinician, Engebretson has appeared throughout the United States and abroad, most notably in Germany, Switzerland, Italy, France, Russia, Lithuania, Korea, and Iceland. Through advanced study grants, he had the opportunity to work with the great choral mentors of our time, including Eric Ericson, Robert Shaw, Gregg Smith, Richard Westenburg, Roger Wagner, and Margaret Hillis. As a lecturer, he has served as a Senior Specialist with the Fulbright Foundation in Iceland and speaks annually for events such as Spoleto USA for the Smithsonian Institution.



Dr. Mei Zhong

Currently serves Ball State University as Professor of Voice. She earned a D.M.A. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and an M.F.A. from the University of California, Los Angeles; both in Vocal Performance. She earned a B.A. in Piano from Hunan Teachers University and a vocal performance diploma for advanced study from Shanghai Conservatory of Music.

Dr. Zhong performed several leading roles in opera productions, such as Butterfly in *Madama Butterfly*, Sister Angelica in *Suor Angelica*, Micaëla in *Carmen*, etc. She was a soloist in choral and symphony productions of Dvorák's *Te Deum*, Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9*, Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*, Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Dona Nobis Pacem*, etc. Her solo recitals and performances in concerts and operas have taken stages across more than twenty-four states in the U.S. and several cities in China. Zhong has given many master classes and lecture recitals at various institutions and conferences internationally. Her acclaimed publications cover books and recordings on singing, teaching, Puccini and new vocal repertoire. She received the top faculty honor of *Outstanding Creative Endeavor Award* at Ball State University in 2007. For more information about Dr. Zhong, please visit the website <http://www.drmzhong.com/>.



Ms. Lynn Staininger

Lynn Staininger is the Director of Choral Activities at Hood College in Frederick, Maryland, where she conducts the concert and chamber choirs and teaches music theory and conducting. Recipient of the 2017 Outstanding Music Educator Award from the Maryland Music Educators Association, Ms. Staininger is currently enjoying her 30th year as a proud music educator and performer.

Ms. Staininger is also marking her 15th year as Artistic Director and Conductor of the Choral Arts Society of Frederick currently celebrating its 75th year as one of Frederick's oldest arts organizations. Performing both in Maryland and internationally, the CASF has earned acclaim as part of Frederick's rich cultural heritage. Ms. Staininger is an adjunct faculty member at Frederick Community College where she teaches the choral ensemble, music theory and appreciation, and maintains a large private voice and piano studio. She is an organist and accompanist for St. Joseph on Carrolton Manor Catholic Church, in Buckeystown, Maryland and an active accompanist to local voice studios.

A native Arizonan, Lynn received her degrees in Music Education and Choral Conducting from Arizona State University in Tempe, Arizona, under the direction of Dr. David Stocker and Dr. Donald Bailey. She has continued her studies in conducting with Donald Neuen and Gary Thor Wedow. Lynn has studied jazz theory and arranging with Phil Mattson, Jeremy Fox and Jason Alex Smith. Ms. Staininger is a returning guest in the Sarteano Choral Workshop in Tuscany, as both a conductor and a singer, where she has studied with Simon Carrington, Brian O'Connell and Bronislawa Falinska.

As a performer, Ms. Staininger began her career as a theater organist, giving concerts in the United States and Great Britain. Staininger is a past member of Phoenix Vocal Jazz, a professional vocal ensemble in the style of Manhattan Transfer, which gave performances throughout the Western states. Lynn is an active keyboard performer, coaching and music directing for music theater productions at both schools, including Avenue Q, 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, the Maryland debut of I Love You Because, and more. She is an active accompanist for local voice studios in addition to her own. She has composed original music for the Off-Off Broadway production of Tulip Heaven, and is an active arranger for various groups. She is an organist at St. Joseph's on Carrolton Manor Catholic Church, in Buckeystown, Maryland.

Ms. Staininger is in demand as a clinician and adjudicator, having recently conducted the All-County Vocal Jazz Festival for Harford, County, Maryland, and adjudicated for Frederick and Washington County Solo and Ensemble Festivals.



Mr. Enyi Shi

Graduated from Shanghai Conservatory of Music, Mr. Shi Enyi is a first-class national actor, member of the Chinese Musician Association, council member of the Chinese Chorus Association, member of the China International Choral Arts Council, President of the Guizhou Chorus Association, Vice president of the Guizhou Musician Association Chorus federation. He is also the artistic director and permanent conductor of the Guizhou Wenhua choir, Guizhou military region choir, Guizhou Senior Citizen College choir, China Science geochemistry academy choir, Ping Ba Teachers' chorus, and Tun Bao choir.

He is quite active in choral stage. Under his directing, many choirs have been awarded good result in international and national choir competitions. He has won conductor's awards and been invited to be a judge of national choir competitions. He has successfully held more than 20 choral concerts of various themes in China.

Mr. Shi is currently a guest lecturer of INTERKULTUR foundation.