

About the Associate Director and Accompanists

Crystal Townzen is currently in her 12th year as the associate choral director at Richland High School. She previously taught middle school choir in Birdville ISD, Richardson ISD, Belton ISD, and Edinburg CISD. Her choirs have consistently earned sweepstakes ratings at UIL and have won "Best In Class" recognition in various festival contests. Crystal has served as secretary in Region V and serves frequently as an adjudicator at UIL contests. She received her Bachelor of Music Education degree from East Texas State University, now A&M at Commerce, where she studied with William Gorham. In addition, Mrs. Townzen holds a Master of Sacred Music in Choral Conducting from Perkins School of Theology at SMU where she studied with Lloyd Pfautsch and a Master of Music in Vocal Performance from the Meadows School of Arts at SMU. She is a member of TCDA, TMEA, TMAA, and ACDA. She lives in North Fort Worth with her wonderful husband, Mark, and her two beautiful children, Curtis, eight, and Caitlyn, three.

Renetta Frisque, Accompanist

Renetta Frisque has taught piano and theory for 25 years in the Preparatory Piano Program at Tarrant County College Northeast, serving as coordinator since 1997. She majored in Piano Performance at Wichita State University, where she studied piano with Robert Roux and Piano pedagogy with Margarite Miller. She has adjudicated festivals and competitions in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area. Mrs. Frisque is a member of TMTA having served as Piano Performance Contest Chairman and is the Hurst Center Chairman for National Guild of Piano Teachers. She has served as choral accompanist for Richland High School for 11 years. Renetta and her husband, John, have a daughter, Jendi, a elementary music major at UNT, a son, Jack, a sophomore at Tarleton State University, and a daughter, Jessie, a senior at Richland High School and a member of the Richland High School Chorale.

Dr. Robert Hunt, Pianist

Robert Hunt is a multi-dimensional artist whose accomplishments range across the spectrum of classical and popular styles and encompass conducting, composition, piano performance and accompanying. He was the Music Director of the Midland-Odessa Symphony and Chorale during one of its most successful eras, 1994-2001. He has served as guest conductor for several professional orchestras and ballet companies, and has collaborated with prominent soloists including Susan Graham, Helen Donath, James Dick, Lee Luvisi, Dikran Atamian, and Eugene Fodor. He was the chorusmaster for opera productions at Indiana University and Texas Christian University and served as a pianist-coach for Boris Goldovsky workshops and at the Dallas Opera as assistant to Roberto Benaglio.

Dr. Hunt is equally comfortable in the realms of popular music and musical theatre. A studio musician and jingle writer in Dallas, he toured with Ray Price as pianist/conductor and appeared with Willie Nelson, Julius LaRosa, Peggy Lee, The Lettermen, Trini Lopez, Ed Shaughnessy, the New York Voices, and Rich Little. From 1983-88, he was the musical director for American Cabaret Theatre of New York. He wrote and conducted a musical revue for the American Express 25th Anniversary at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel in New York City. He has been commissioned to write pops arrangements for the Empire State Games, the Lake Placid Sinfonietta, the Northwest Orchestra (MI), the Midland-Odessa Symphony, the San Angelo Symphony, and the New York Pops.

As an educator, Dr. Hunt's experience is likewise varied. He has taught choral music at the Jr. High and High School levels, instrumental and choral conducting at Indiana University, and was the Director of Commercial Music Studies at Midland College from 1990-2005. At the University of Houston, he directed the Concert Women's Chorus as an Affiliate Artist. He has served as all-region clinician for both choir and orchestra and has guest-conducted the Lubbock Youth Orchestra. His compositions have been published by GIA and Crescendo Publications.

Dr. Hunt completed course requirements for the Doctor of Music in conducting at Indiana University and holds degrees in piano and musicology from SMU and TCU. He received the Doctor of Musical Arts in choral conducting from the University of Houston in 2006. He directs the music program at The Woodlands Christian Church and is the artistic director of Constellation, an innovative chamber choir and orchestra devoted to the creation of fresh contexts for performance of both old and new music. At SHSU, he teaches Class Piano and Introduction to the Study of Music, and accompanies Christopher Michel's vocal studio class.

Texas Music Educators Association

2010 Clinic/Convention

Richland High School Chorale

Patricia Neighbors, Director

Crystal Townzen, Associate Director

Renetta Frisque, Accompanist

Sam Houston State University Chorale

Dr. Allen Hightower, Conductor

Dr. Robert Hunt, Pianist



Richland High School Chorale

Stephen Atturio
Josh Bangle
Janie Beck
Emily Benton
Hannah Claunch
Tyler Cline
Summer Coleman
Mallory Conner
Sally Cope
Cody Crowe
Daniel Cummings
Lauren Davis
Jackson Durham
Bianca Ennis
Rebecca Fabrizius
Shaina Flowers
Meagan Fierro

David Frick
Jessie Frisque
Mitchell Hardee
Samantha Harris
Priscilla Hatcher
Taylor Hernandez
Rae Ann Hughes
Alicia Irwin
Bryanna Johnson
Joseph King
Colton Kingston
Kendall Leeming
Reid Lewis
Trent Lewis
Jennifer Marcum
Andi Marrero
Hunter McElroy

Julia McKinnis
Mariah Mendoza
Marcelino Negrete
Luke Page
Vincent Potts
Johnna Purchase
Jonathan Rajsachack
Jake Roan
Erica Rocha
Tierney Rose
Chad Russell
Crystal Sade
Kristen Steele
Tyrell Strickland
Chris Wilson
Kara Wingfield
Patrick Womack

About the Director

Patricia Neighbors is the head choral director at Richland High School. Miss Neighbors has been a music educator for 36 years. She began her tenure at Richland in 1978 and taught there for 10 years while building a strong program with a tradition of excellence. In 1988, she left Richland to become full-time associate music minister at North Richland Hills Baptist Church where she continued to serve as a music educator and minister developing music programs for children, youth and senior adults. In 1999, she was privileged to come back to Richland High School and continue her life as a Richland Rebel. She believes "Once a Rebel, Always a Rebel." Now in her 21st year at Richland, she is proud of her school and the talented students she teaches. Under her direction, her choirs have received consistent Sweepstakes at UIL, been named Outstanding Choir at invitational contests, and have sung at a National ACDA Convention. She holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree with a double applied major in voice and piano from the University of Central Oklahoma and an MME from the University of Oklahoma where she studied with Dr. B.R. Henson and Dr. Bruce Govich. She has also done doctoral work in conducting at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth. Miss Neighbors is active as an adjudicator, clinician and accompanist. She accompanies All-State choir camps throughout the state and often serves as accompanist for TCDA reading sessions, workshops and region choirs. In 2009, she was privileged to accompany the Texas All-State Mixed Choir. As a long time member of TMEA, she has served as section leader for the All-State Mixed Choir, and as an officer in Region V. She has also served on the UIL Advisory Committee. Miss Neighbors is a member of TMEA, TCDA, ACDA and Sigma Alpha Iota. She is also an active member of North Pointe Baptist Church. She makes her home in North Richland Hills and she feels blessed to be surrounded with wonderful friends.

Sam Houston State University Chorale

Soprano	Alto	Tenor	Bass
Rose Bitters	Sierah Ayala	Isaac Broadway	Preston Andrews
Laura Bruhn	Nicole Cano	Lindsey Harris, Jr.	Taylor Fisher
Alex Cherry	Rebecca Castillo	Austin Hunt	Austin Ishee
Emily Heller	Lindsey Fuson	Alex Lathrom	Macon Leiper
Elizabeth Ilsgeng	Courtney Greene	Keith Lathrom	Jacob Lowry **
Brandi Jones	Courtney Kelly	Colin McIntire	Heath Martin
Leah Marsella	Kathryn Kelley	Gilbert Millan	Joe Nidever
Hannah Mischisin	Alice Lothman	Josh Muirhead	Victor Quintana
Hannah Ricks	Henrietta Lusk **	Clifford Randle	Juan Polanco
Amanda Saucedo	Emily Martinez	Sean Stultz	Brian Shane
Courtney Stancil	Ashley Monteferante	Kevin A. Watson	Desmond Williams
Kendra Tolmsoff	Jessica Pace	Jonathan Zitzmann	
Dominique Williams	Rachel Pitman		
	Alyssa Porter		

About the Conductor

Dr. Allen R. Hightower, Conductor

As Professor of Music and Director of Choral Studies at Sam Houston State University, Dr. Hightower leads one of Texas' finest collegiate choral programs. Choirs from Sam Houston sing frequently at state and national choral conventions and collaborate with such groups as the Houston Masterworks Chorus and Houston Ballet. Sam Houston's undergraduate program in choral music education and master's degree program in choral conducting have produced many of Texas' finest choral directors.

Native Houstonian Allen Hightower is now in his fifth season as Music Director of the Houston Masterworks Chorus. Under his leadership the chorus has renewed its commitment to present the very finest works for chorus and orchestra to the great Bayou City. Recent HMC collaborations have included performances with the Houston's Children Chorus, the Sam Houston State University Symphonic Choir and Orchestra, the Tallowood Baptist Church Choir, and the Houston Ballet. Dr. Hightower is Minister of Music and Worship at Houston's Tallowood Baptist Church.

Allen won first-prize in graduate division of the 1997 National ACDA Conducting Competition. From 1997-2000 Allen worked with Maestro Paul Salamunovich as conducting intern with the Los Angeles Master Chorale. He is a graduate of Sam Houston State University, where he was a student of Bev Henson, the Eastman School of Music, Baylor University, and UCLA where he served as graduate-assistant conductor to Donald Neuen. Most recently Dr. Hightower has pursued post-doctoral studies at Trinity College, Cambridge University.

As a guest conductor, Dr. Hightower has most recently made appearances in Kentucky, Kansas, and Alabama. TMEA convention appearances under Allen's leadership include the Odessa Permian High School Kantorei in 1996 and the SHSU Chorale in 2003, 2006, and 2010. The Chorale performed for the National Convention of ACDA in 2007 and performs for the 2010 Southwestern Division of ACDA.



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1. Vox Populi, Vox Dei	<i>JEHMS/Alliance Music</i>	...	Giedrius Svilainis	3:16
2. Cantate Domino	<i>Walton Music</i>	...	Hans Leo Hassler/ed. David Giardiniere	2:36
3. Plaudant Aetheri	<i>JEHMS/Alliance Music</i>	...	Ignaz Holzbauer/ed. Martin Banner	4:24
4. The Sweetheart of the Sun	<i>Walton Music</i>	...	Eric Barnum	5:04
5. Kalinda	<i>Walton Music</i>	.....	Sydney Guillaume	4:01
6. Homage	<i>Heritage/Lorenz</i>	Z. Randall Stroope	5:16

Sam Houston State University Chorale

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7. Alleluia – Haec Dies	www.cpdl.org William Byrd	2:53
8. Dum Transisset Sabbatum	www.cpdl.org	... John Taverner	5:55
9. Sehnsucht, Op. 112, No. 1	www.cpdl.org	.... Johannes Brahms	3:28
10. Himmel strahlt, Op. 112, No. 3	www.cpdl.org	.... Johannes Brahms	2:04
11. A Hymn to the Virgin	<i>Boosey & Hawkes</i>	.... Benjamin Britten	2:39
12. Ave Maria	<i>Peermusic</i>	..... Morten Lauridsen	6:19
13. Coronation Te Deum	<i>Oxford University Press</i>	.... William Walton	9:29
14. Sügismaastikud	<i>Walton Music</i>	..... Veljo Tormis	
15. V. Tuul könnnumaa kohal			1:15
16. VII. Kanarbik			1:54
16. Beautiful Dreamer	<i>G. Schirmer</i> Stephen Foster/arr. Gail Kubik	3:19
17. Ezekiel Saw de Wheel	<i>Hal Leonard</i> arr. Moses Hogan	3:26

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