



April 12, 2013 • John Burroughs High School • Burbank, CA

ADJUDICATORS

MIDDLE-SCHOOL

RANDY SAGE is a freelance choreographer residing in Los Angeles, CA. Originally from Buffalo Grove, IL, Randy graduated from Millikin University, studying dance and earning his bachelors in Choral Music Education. Since 2002, he has been choreographing for many award-winning high school and junior high show choirs around the Midwest, South, and West Coast. Some of his schools include Fairfield High School in Fairfield, OH, Burbank High School in Burbank, CA, and Buffalo Grove High School, in Buffalo Grove, IL. Throughout the year he is hired as a clinician, adjudicator, and guest choreographer at numerous competitions and workshops. He is on staff as a choreographer at Showchoir Camps of America at both the Illinois and Ohio locations. In the past, Randy has collaborated with dancers who were a part of the top 50 in the Fox TV series "So You Think You Can Dance?" In August of 2010, Randy taped a pilot episode with Burbank High School, entitled "The Real Glee." Filmed by E!, the week taping focused on the rigorous rehearsals of the top high school show choir, and featured some of his choreography. Recently, Randy has accepted the position as assistant choral director at Burbank high school and is very excited to be teaching music in the classroom again.

JEREMY ALFERA is happy to be in his tenth year as a music educator. For the past nine years he has served as Vocal Music Director at Marysville High School in Marysville, OH where he arranges/directs the award winning show choir 'Swingers Unlimited'. He received his Bachelors of Music Education from The Ohio State University, where he was involved in many ensembles, operas, and musical reviews. For the past 12 years, Mr. Alfera has been an active arranger for show choirs all over the country including the Wheaton Warrenville 'Classics', Buffalo Grove 'Expressions', and Fairfield 'Choraliers'. He is on the staff of Show Choir Camps of America where he has served as an accompanist and counselor for the past 14 years. He would like to thank his friends, family, and colleagues for their support and love of music!

ALEX HALL is a freelance choreographer, performer, songwriter, and storm chaser based in Chicago, Illinois. Alex is a proud alumnus of DeKalb Show Choirs and Ball State University. As an original artist, Alex has performed with several national acts including Tyler Hilton, Anna Nalick, Aaron Carter, Straight No Chaser, and indie rockers Margot and the nuclear So & Sos. He was recently featured (hit with a slushy) on *The Glee Project*, and, in an unrelated incident, his hair was threatened on *Live with Regis and Kelly*. It still survives to this day. Alex has been a featured performer at Six Flags theme parks in Chicago, New Jersey, and New Orleans, and is active in the Chicago theatre and music scenes. He sings and writes for Chicago folk band The Puffins, who will soon release their second full-length album *Twenty-Six*. Look for that and their first release, *Shade of Blue*, on iTunes. Alex choreographs and workshops several award-winning show choirs from coast to coast, including Prospect "Mixed Company", Marysville "Swingers Unlimited", and recently, John Burroughs "Powerhouse." He is also busy as a show designer, adjudicator and clinician. In his free time, Alex is tracking the latest storm, and his weather photographer has been featured on many local television stations, and nationally on *Good Morning America*.

ADJUDICATORS cont'd

NOVICE & INTERMEDIATE MIXED

For 28 years, **MARY RAGO** was director of the Vocal Music Association at John Burroughs High School, Burbank, California. With an outstanding staff of choreographers and musicians, Mrs. Rago's choirs were regularly acclaimed for their excellence in both concert and show choir mediums, capturing championships and many top honors at both FAME and Showstoppers show choir competitions, as well as the southern California show choir circuit. She has also taught choral music at John Muir Junior High School and Providence High School in Burbank, Visitation School in Los Angeles and in K-8 schools in Chicago. A native of Burbank, Mrs. Rago received her BA from Mundelein College, Chicago, Illinois; the MME from University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana; and the MA from Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, California. She has been recognized with Teacher of the Year Awards from the Los Angeles County Music Educators and the Burbank Unified School District, Woman of the Year from the Burbank chapter of Zonta International, and as a finalist for the prestigious Los Angeles Music Center Bravo Award. Mrs. Rago now enjoys time with her husband, Carl, RV-ing across the states, while continuing to contribute to the national and local choral scene as clinician and adjudicator.

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A D J U D I C A T O R S c o n t ' d

NOVICE & INTERMEDIATE WOMEN

JEN OUNDJIAN has been choreographing and designing award-winning show choir, musical theatre productions and large event performances for almost two decades. She has been the resident Artistic Director and Choreographer for John Burroughs Powerhouse show choir (known as one of the inspirations for the Fox TV show "Glee") for 18 years. Powerhouse has performed on "The Voice," "Dancing with the Stars," "Ellen," "America's Got Talent" and "The Oprah Winfrey Show." They have had high profile performances for dozens of Hollywood events and around the world performances including Hong Kong and Beijing. Her high-concept shows have taken Powerhouse to top-4 placings at nationwide competitions every year for the past twelve years, winning six National Grand Championships. With a BFA from CalArts in costume design/theatre design, her shows consistently push the boundaries of creativity and passion. She works nationwide as a clinician, performance coach, and judge.

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JARAD VOSS currently lives in Los Angeles CA. A graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, he is now a freelance choreographer and performer specializing in hip-hop and urban jazz styles. A former dance captain for the Wisconsin Singers and Six Flags Great America Chicago, Jarad has worked on different festivals, musicals, and industrials. A clinician and choreographer at Show Choir Camps of America, Show Choir Camp Europe, Mt. Shasta, and the Southern Experience, Jarad clinics and choreographs many show choirs and dance troupes throughout the nation.

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ADVANCED WOMEN & MEN

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ADJUDICATORS cont'd

AA ADVANCED MIXED

THOR STEINGRABER is the former Vice President of Programming at the Los Angeles Music Center. Thor brings to this role 20 years in the performing arts, as a director, writer, and arts administrator. As a director his work has appeared on 3 continents and at most of the major American opera houses, including Lincoln Center, San Francisco Opera, Santa Fe Opera, and Lyric Opera of Chicago. He enjoyed a relationship with the Los Angeles Opera for more than a decade, where he directed regularly. As an educator, Thor has taught at some of the nation's most esteemed universities and conservatories, including Yale School of Music, Indiana University, and the Curtis Institute. Prior to the Music Center, Thor was Senior Vice President of the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts in Philadelphia.

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DR. GLENN PICKETT believes that music is communication and he thoroughly enjoys helping all kinds of musical organizations improve their ability to communicate with their audiences. He holds the DMA degree from the Claremont Graduate University, MM from Azusa Pacific University and a BA in Piano from the California State University at Northridge. His life long love of choral music began during his senior year of high school when he led a concert presented by his church's youth group. Having completed 25 years of service to the church in 2008, he is now teaching composition at California Baptist University in Riverside. Dr. Pickett is a published composer with the Alfred, Fred Bock and Hal Leonard Music Companies. He married Julie Urbanovich in 1986, a former cheerleader and graduate of John Burroughs High School.

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CHRISTINE DEMORE is currently the Vocal Music Director at Jordan Middle School in Burbank where she has four award winning choirs and over 300 students in the program every year. She is an adjudicator for the Southern California Vocal Association and the national Music in the Parks festival program. She is a guest conductor and clinician for concert and show choirs throughout Southern California. In the past she served on the faculty at the California Institute of the Arts in Valencia, CA as vocal coach and music director in the theater school. Christine currently serves as adjunct faculty in the Masters of Art in Teaching Program at the University of Southern California. In 2008 she was awarded the Los Angeles County Teacher of the Year Award. She is this year's recipient of the NAFME Outstanding Educator Award for the Southern Section of California. She is a graduate of Carnegie-Mellon University. Christine and her husband David, have two children and three grandchildren.

A D J U D I C A T O R S c o n t ` d

CONCERT CHOIR

PROFESSOR GLENN CARLOS is the Director of Choral Activities at Los Angeles Valley College and is the conductor of the Metropolitan Master Chorale. Glenn serves on the Executive Board of the Music Association of Community Colleges of California and Glenn is a consultant for the Grammy Awards Foundation. He is a noted arranger whose musical arrangements have been performed by choirs throughout the United States. Mr Carlos is a member of the American Choral Directors Association.

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