

10/6/09

TO: Michael Harvey, High School Principal

FROM: William T. Pappazisis
Director of Fine and Performing Arts

SUBJECT: ACDA Eastern Division High School Honor Choir

DATE: September 23, 2009

I am delighted to inform you that five high students have been accepted for participation in the American Choral Directors Association 2010 Eastern Division High School Men's and Women's Honor Choirs. The students are:

- Alexander Aroyan
- Samuel Efthim
- Emily Guthrie
- Jack Lowrie
- Gary Nielsen

Acceptance into the honor choir is based on a recorded solo performance that is reviewed by a selection committee of vocal and choral educators. The Eastern Division is comprised of the New England states, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Washington D.C. Approximately 180 students were selected from public and private high schools throughout this region. They will have the opportunity to work and perform with exceptionally talented peers, under the batons of Dr. Jerry Blackstone, Director of Choral Activities at the University of Michigan, and Dr. Sharon Paul, Director of Choral Activities at the University of Oregon.

I also learned that no other high school in Massachusetts had as many students selected as did Belmont High School. In addition, Belmont High School ranked second in the entire Eastern Division.

I would also like to commend Sean Landers for his work in preparing the students' for their auditions.

The Eastern Division Honor Choir will rehearse and perform in conjunction with the American Choral Directors Association Eastern Division Conference, which will be held in Philadelphia, PA, February 10-13, 2010.

✓ Whereas this is an out-of-state overnight field trip, I am requesting approval for the students to participate in this extraordinary event. ACDA expects that the students are accompanied by their teachers. Pending approval of the students' travel, Mr. Landers will be assigned as the school chaperone; as the designated chaperone, he will also be able to attend the conference.

cc: Dr. George Entwistle
Mr. Denis Fitzpatrick