

President's Message

Pam McDermott



Greetings, and welcome to the Virginia ACDA website!

On behalf of our leadership team, I invite you to reach out with your questions and suggestions for our chapter of ACDA. Our website is undergoing construction as July 1 marks the beginning of term for new state leaders; we are working diligently to update our leader bios, headshots, and contact information. In the meantime, feel free to contact me – Pam McDermott, pamacdava@gmail.com.

Virginia is a big place! It is 6-7 hours from the outer southern tips to the northern point, or from tip to tip across the bottom of the state. There is great work going on everywhere, and ACDA wants to support and recognize your efforts to bring excellence in choral music to your neck of the woods.

Our state's annual conference is **Voices United**, a collaborative conference with MD/DC and DE chapters of ACDA, and the Musical Source. It is held at the beginning of August at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA. It is recognized as one of the leading state conferences in the nation. For details on our conference, see our website at www.acdavoicesunited.org.

Our members meet at Voices United and we gather at the VMEA conference in November. We take our mission from our national organization: *to inspire excellence in choral music through education, performance, composition, and advocacy.*

We are an organization of choral directors. Every member of our leadership team is actively teaching / conducting choral music, in addition to serving our membership in their elected / appointed capacity. We volunteer because we believe in the mission of ACDA. We have seen the good work going on in schools, churches, and community ensembles around us, and your work excites us and motivates us to do more.

I invite you to advocate for Virginia ACDA. Represent us in your part of the state. When you see a director who is committed to choral excellence, reach out to them on behalf of ACDA. Only by supporting each other will we continue to build quality musical experiences for the singers in our state. As you represent ACDA in your area, let us know how we can help. I look forward to hearing from you! provide resources in the hopes of enriching the value of our chapter. Please be in touch with us! If you have an idea, need some advice, are looking to connect or have a general question, please reach out to any of our chapter leaders. If you know of someone who could benefit from a closer network of colleagues and the sharing of wisdom in the choral domain, please invite them to be a part of us. Thank you for reading, and I wish you the very best as you continue to make beautiful music this year!

Pam McDermott is the current President of VA-ACDA