March 1, 2019

Dear Band and Choir Directors,

**Please share this information with all of the music teachers in your school and district. **

Southwest Minnesota State University is proud to announce the thirteenth annual *Minnesota Area Conducting Workshop*. This workshop is open to all music educators and community and church ensemble conductors, and best of all, there is **no charge for participation**. Please see the enclosed brochure for more information and for applications to participate in this year's Minnesota Area Conducting Workshop. Brochures and applications may be copied for other colleagues who may be interested or you can find this information on our website www.smsu.edu/go/music under the "Artist and Educator Opportunities" tab on the right.

The Minnesota Area Conducting Workshop will take place June 24th through 26th on the campus of Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall, MN. Each of the three days will include approximately 7 hours of professional development time, including a conducting lab each morning, peer critique sessions, and discussions regarding issues in instrumental and vocal conducting and teaching. The workshop is designed for music educators of all grade levels as well as directors working with community and church groups. Conducting selections will include music appropriate for elementary, middle school, high school, church and community bands and choirs. We hope that participants can take what they learn and immediately apply it to their teaching.

Starting this summer, we will are able to make **undergraduate or graduate credit available** for participation in the workshop. While the workshop itself will continue to be free of charge, those wishing to receive a credit will need to pay tuition for that credit. If you are interested, please contact Dr. Ginocchio (john.ginocchio@smsu.edu).

Separate conducting and discussion sessions are planned for vocal and instrumental conductors. This year Dr. Stephen Kingsbury, Director of Choral Activities at SMSU and Dr. Bradley Miller, Director of Choral Activities at UM Morris, will serve as our vocal conducting clinicians. Dr. John Ginocchio, Director of Bands at SMSU and Dr. Michael Buck, Director of Bands at College of St. Scholastica in Duluth, MN, will work with the instrumental conductors. All clinicians are offering their time and expertise as a service to the music education community.

As we have for several years, we are offering this workshop to conductors from anywhere in the region. Opportunities to participate will fill quickly, so if you're interested, reserve your spot now. We hope to see many of you in Marshall for the Minnesota Area Conducting Workshop this summer.

Sincerely,

Dr. John Ginocchio

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