

2011 SCKMEA Mixed Choir Clinician

Z. Randall Stroope



Z. Randall Stroope is one of the most active choral conductors and composers working today, with recent conducting engagements at the American School in Singapore, Canterbury Cathedral, England, Salzburger Dom in Salzburg, Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., Vancouver Symphony (British Columbia), and two performances at the Vatican in the past year. He is also an established composer, his works performed regularly by esteemed ensembles throughout the world, including professional ensembles in France, Holland, Hong Kong, Spain, Japan, Australia, the Czech Republic, and Canada. Dr. Stroope has personally conducted/recorded 13 professional compact discs, and recordings of his music are heard frequently on radio and television broadcasts, including National Public Radio.

Stroope studied conducting at Arizona State University and with Margaret Hillis, Chorus Master of the Chicago Symphony. He is the Director of Choral and Vocal Studies at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, where he conducts the Concert Chorale and Chamber Choir, and coordinates the undergraduate and graduate choral conducting program at the University. Dr. Stroope is also the Artistic Director of summer international choral festivals in Rome, Italy and Berlin, Germany.

Dr. Stroope was born in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and received a Master of Music degree in voice performance from the University of Colorado and a doctorate in choral conducting from Arizona State University. He and his wife, Cheryl – a middle school choral music teacher in Stillwater - enjoy travel and time with their Sheltie.

2011 SCKMEA Women's Choir Clinician

Tony Gonzalez



Tony Gonzalez is currently in his fourteenth year at Norman North High School where he supervises and conducts two mixed choirs, four women's choirs, two men's choirs, a chamber choir, and a jazz choir. Before his assignment at Norman North, he served as choir director at Central Mid High School (Norman) for eleven years. A native of Brownsville, Texas, Tony attended Del Mar College in Corpus Christi, Texas where he studied with Ron Shirey. He earned his B.M.E. degree at Texas A & I University in Kingsville. He received a M.M.E. degree from the University of Oklahoma and has completed, course work toward his D.M.A. degree in Choral Conducting. His studies at the University of Oklahoma included work with the late Dr. B. R. Henson and the late Dr. Bruce Govich.

Tony is Past President of the Southern Division of the Oklahoma Chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing and the Oklahoma Choral Directors Association. He has served on the board of the Norman Arts Council and the University of Oklahoma Opera Guild. He is currently R & S High School Chair for the Southwest American Choral Directors Association. Tony has also held high school teaching positions in Alice, Texas and Edinburg, Texas. He served as Director of Choral Activities at the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma in Chickasha. He is former director of the Norman Community Choral Society and the Oklahoma Vocal Arts Ensemble.

Tony's choirs have won festivals in Oklahoma, Dallas, San Antonio, Houston, New Orleans, Chicago, Washington, D.C., and New York City, and San Diego. They have performed for state, regional and national conventions of OMEA, OCDA, SWACDA and ACDA. The Norman North choirs appeared at the national ACDA conventions in New York City (2003) and Miami (2007). The Chorale was selected to perform on the NPR show *From the Top* that was aired nationally in September, 2011. He has served as adjudicator and guest conductor throughout the Southwest. He has been voted to Who's Who Among American High School Teachers and was a finalist for Teacher of the Year at Norman North in 2000-2001. He was honored in 2003 by the National Music Educators Association in its national magazine, *Teaching Music*, as one of the outstanding music educators in the country. He is the 2005-2006 recipient of the State and Regional Music Educator of the Year award for the National Federation of High Schools. In 2007 he won the national award as the Music Educator of the Year for the National Federation of High Schools. In 2008 OMEA honored him and rewarded him with the distinction of Exemplary Teacher for his life-long work in music education. He was recently honored by the Norman Chamber of Commerce for his artistic contributions to the cultural life of the community.