

MCDA Jan 2026

MCDA 2025-2026 AWARDS

2025-2026 MCDA Awards Nomination Form

B I U

Thank you for taking the time to nominate a colleague for one of the MCDA Awards! This is the **first step** in the nomination process for the Prelude, Interlude, Opus, Podium, Newcomer, and Spayde Awards. Deadline to complete this first step is March 15. Both nominator and nominee must be current members of the organization for the nomination to move forward!

To complete this form you will need the nominees phone number and email address.

Our process:

- After March 15, the nominator (you) will be sent directions on how to complete the nominations.
- The completed nominations for all awards (except the Opus) are voted upon by the elected members of the Executive Board. The Opus Award is voted upon by the Resource Chairs.
- In order for there to only be a RECIPIENT, and not a "winner/loser," the nominees are not told of their nomination.
- The selected recipient will be told of their award by the President, after which you, as the nominator, will be told if your nominee was selected or not.
- You are free to tell the recipient that you were the nominator, but we will not.
- Further, we ask that no social media posts be made of the selection until after our conference.
- Award recipients will be recognized at the banquet.

Please refer to awards page on our website (www.moacda.org) for full criteria on each award - but in a nutshell:

- Prelude Award - outstanding young choral professional 1-7 years of experience
- Interlude Award - outstanding choral professional with 8+ years of experience
- Newcomer Award - someone **new to our state** - jumped right in and made a positive impact
- Opus Award - a choral composition **written by or for a Missouri member/choir**
- Podium Award - **two options:** recognizing longtime achievement in choral artistry - or a singular performance worthy of special recognition
- Luther T. Spayde - recognizes longtime **achievement** in choral artistry combined with **service** to the organization

To access the form,
click above or use the
qr code.
Deadline is Feb 15



MCDA Membership Snapshot January 2026	
MEMBERSHIP TYPES	TOTAL MEMBERS 524
Active 344	
Lifetime 46	
Retired 62	
Student 60	
Industry/Institution 6	
THE STATE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR HEREBY APPOINTS EACH AND EVERY MEMBER AS HONORARY MEMBERSHIP CHAIRS. GO AND SHARE THE GOOD WORD ABOUT OUR FABULOUS ORGANIZATION. #MCDAFAMILY	

Dear MCDA Family,

It's been far too long since we have gathered! I have missed seeing your beautiful faces and can't wait to hug your neck at MMEA in just a few short days. Our All-State Clinician, Dr. Edith Copley, is going to be an outstanding part of our MMEA experience. She brings a wealth of knowledge from her time at Northern Arizona University, not to mention her leadership with ACDA.

We can always count on our colleagues providing jaw-dropping, memorable performances at MMEA. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate so everyone can go into their performances with happy hearts.

MCDA will come together in just a few short months. Our theme, "The Ties That Bind" is an opportunity to make stronger connections with colleagues young and old. What are you doing to make new teachers feel welcome? How about seasoned teachers? Do they feel included in your "crew?" MCDA provides many opportunities for all of us and it is so important to reach out to make friends and colleagues feel connected.

I challenge you to make some new friends at MMEA and invite them to MCDA. It will make you and your friends feel so much better! See you at the Lake!

Christy Elsea
MCDA President

ACDA & LEGACY PINS at MMEA



Pick up your pin at the MCDA Booth at MMEA.

Keep your pin for Summer Conference!



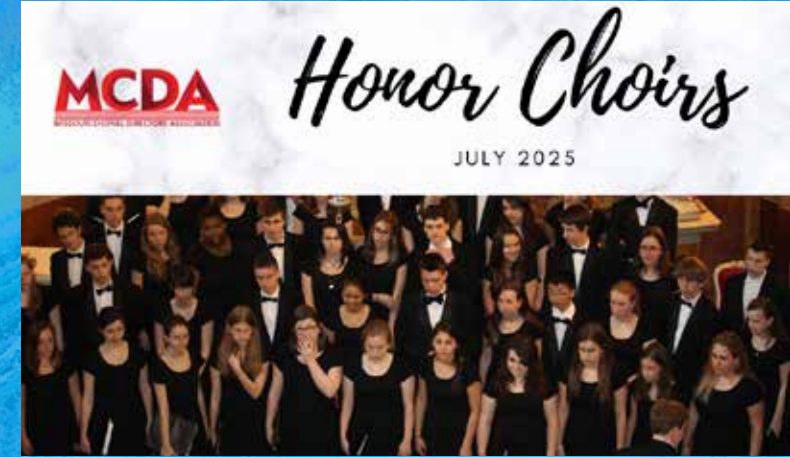
TIES THAT BIND Choir and Connection

University Plaza | Springfield July 14-17, 2026
MISSOURI CHORAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION

MCDA Resource Chairs				
 Rebecca Olivas Children's Choirs	 Beth St. John High School Choirs	 Barb Lamont Industry	 Tom Clark 4-Year Colleges	 Arika Winborne Middle School Choirs
 Nadia Maddex Vocal Solo Choirs	 Carter Datz World Music & Cultures	 Kenny Kabak Community Choirs	 Melanie Soule TTBB Choirs	 Derrick Bready Youth & Student Activities
 Sara Kurz Show Choirs	 Chris Kindie Two-Year Colleges	 Lauren Tosh SSAA Choirs	 Jordan Cox Music in Worship	 Andy Waggoner Event Coordinator

Your Resource Chairs are the GO-TO people for content in your area. Check out the "Folder Finds" in the MCDA Opus for highlighted literature selections. Each of our chairs is happy to share knowledge and resources with you! Contact them!

MCDA Honor Choir Information will be shared at MMEA. If you are not in attendance, it will also be posted on the website during that time. 4/5/6 is a Festival Model (nomination vs audition) 7/8, 9/10, Show Choir, Jazz, Church/Community will follow similar procedures as in the past.



MCDA Resources Information Form

Please help us get you connected! Complete the information below so we can match you with the MCDA resources that fit your needs. Your details will only be shared with our R&R Chairs and will remain private.

Email *

Valid email

This form is collecting emails. [Change settings](#)

First Name *

Short answer text

Last Name *

Short answer text

Preferred Communication Method

☐ Email

☐ Phone Call

☐ SMS/Text Message

☐ Social Media (MCDA FB or IG)



Christy Elsea, President IG: @mcdasings FB: Missouri Choral Directors Association X: @mcdasings

