



DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Dear Choral Directors,

We are thrilled to invite you to the 8th annual **Real Men Sing** choir festival at Wartburg College on **Saturday, October 6, 2018**. This event is designed to jump-start and motivate the men in your choral program early in the year. Although designed with middle school and high school students in mind, we encourage and invite church and community choir singers to participate as a celebration of the life-long pursuit of music.

We are pleased to welcome the award-winning vocal band **Six Appeal** as our guest artist for the festival. In addition to being master performers, members of the group are also experienced educators with degrees in K-12 music education and vocal pedagogy. They will use their training and skill to inspire singers and kindle ambition during an interactive masterclass with festival participants and in performance with the combined festival chorus at the finale concert. We will also honor the **President's Men Chorus** from Roosevelt High School in Sioux Falls, SD, under the direction of **John Parezo**, with a special performance at the finale concert.

Directors will choose from two choirs to enroll their singers: a middle school chorus (Grades 7-9/10) and a Grade 9-Adult chorus. Master educator **Greg Douma** of Eastview High School in Apple Valley, MN will conduct the middle school chorus, and Wartburg's Director of Choral Activities **Dr. Lee Nelson** will conduct the high school/adult choir.

Directors' workshops, led by **Dr. Nicki Toliver** and focusing on recruitment, retention, and teaching strategies for working with male voices, will be offered on the day of the festival as well. More information about the workshops will be available at a later date.

The day will culminate in a grand finale concert featuring the Grades 7-9/10 festival chorus, Grade 9-Adult festival chorus, a combined festival choir (all participants), and special performances by the President's Men Chorus, Six Appeal and Wartburg College's male ensembles Ritterchor and Festeberg.

To register your singers for this event, visit www.wartburg.edu/festivals. The registration link will go live on Monday, August 27th and will remain open through midnight on Sunday, September 9th OR until the cap of 500 participants has been reached. This festival WILL reach capacity, so do not wait until the deadline to turn in your registration.

It is our hope to inspire and invigorate your young men while helping them find the joy and richness that singing brings to life!

Sincerely,

Stephanie Klemetson
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