2026 Fall Workshop Schedule
September 4 | University of Alabama in Huntsville
Stephanie Smeltzer, Clinician

7:30-8:00 **Registration** | Lobby

8:00-9:00 **Welcome and General Membership Meeting** | Roberts Hall

9:00-9:15 **Break** Coffee and Snacks | Lobby

9:15-10:10 **Score Study for the Choral Student (Part 1) (Stephanie Smeltzer)** | Roberts Hall
In Part 1 of this score study series, we will combine close-reading strategies that align with school-wide literacy initiatives with practical techniques for teaching both beginning and experienced choral students how to read and understand a choral score. Take the guesswork out of substitute plans and gain confidence that your students truly understand what they are seeing on the page.

10:15-10:45 **District Breakout Meetings**

10:50-11:25 **All-State Sight-Reading Session**| Amanda Slay, Presenter
Roberts Hall

"Get Vertical": Non-Traditional Aural Skills Approach | Andrew Mills, Presenter
Room 201

Roundtable Discussion: Middle School Repertoire | Alicia Moreno Mulloy, Facilitator
Room 212

11:30-12:25 **Put on Your Oxygen Mask First: Strategies for Work-Life Balance (Smeltzer)** | Roberts Hall
Every music educator has asked the question: How am I going to do all of this and still have a life? In this session, we will take an honest look at our priorities and explore practical, real-world tools for creating a healthier balance between our professional and personal lives. Learn how to do your best work without feeling like you have to do everything.

12:30-2:00 **Lunch Break**

New Teacher Luncheon | Morton Hall 292

2:00-2:15 **General Voting Session** | Roberts Hall

2:20-3:15 **Score Study for the Choral Student (Part 2) (Smeltzer)** | Roberts Hall
Extending Learning for Older Singers: *In Part 2, we will build upon the skills introduced in Part 1 by exploring how students can write and speak thoughtfully about choral music. Participants will learn strategies that move students beyond identification and comprehension into higher levels of Bloom's Taxonomy, helping them analyze, evaluate, and discuss music with confidence and sophistication.*

3:20-3:50 **All-State Sight-Reading Session**| Amanda Slay, Presenter
Roberts Hall

"Get Out There!" Choir Travel Planning & Fundraising | Alice LaGrone, Presenter
Room 201

National Board Certification Training | Traci Fuller, Matthew Gardener, & Hilen Wilson, Facilitators
Room 212

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3:55-5:00 **Roundtable Discussion: Community Involvement** | Harrison Hornsby, Facilitators
Room 201

Roundtable Discussion: Recruiting and Retention | Dr. Jillian Johnson, Facilitator
Room 212

Roundtable Discussion: High School Repertoire | Kate Dupuis, Facilitator
Roberts Hall



Stephanie R. Smeltzer, a native of Charlotte, North Carolina. She earned her Bachelor of Music Education degree at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and her Masters of Music at Ohio University.

In 2005, Stephanie commenced her teaching tenure at Southeast Guilford High School in Greensboro, North Carolina, where she dedicated three years (2005-2008) to fostering musical talent. Her passion for education led her to Atlanta, Georgia, where she served as a middle school teacher at Pine Mountain Middle School in Kennesaw from 2008 to 2013. During her time in Georgia, Stephanie's students achieved remarkable success, consistently earning selection for prestigious events like All-State and District Honors Chorus, while also maintaining a superior rating at the Georgia Music Educators Association Large Group Performance Evaluation (LGPE).

In 2013, Stephanie returned to her roots in Charlotte and became an integral part of the Northwest School of the Arts community. Her tenure at Northwest School of the Arts was marked by outstanding achievements, with her students regularly being selected for esteemed events like North Carolina Honors Chorus, Mars Hill Choral Clinic, All-Carolinas Choir and nominations for the Blumey Awards. Under her guidance, students participated in numerous performances alongside Opera Carolina, the Charlotte Symphony, and the Charlotte Master Chorale, showcasing their talents on prestigious stages. In 2023, Mrs. Smeltzer moved to Providence Day School where she teaches grades 5-12 chorus, directs the musical and leads two a capella groups.

Her commitment to music education is reflected in her active membership in esteemed organizations including the National Association for Music Education (NAfME), North Carolina Music Educators Association (NCMEA), American Choral Directors Association (ACDA), Sigma Alpha Iota, and her pivotal roles in numerous musical events and workshops. Stephanie's contributions extend beyond teaching, having served on boards for District XII Honors Chorus, Large Group Performance Evaluation, and organizing Music Performance Adjudication for the West region. She has also served on the NCMEA high school choral executive board and currently serves as music chair for the middle school choral executive board.

Stephanie's ensembles have graced prestigious stages, including performances by Mixed Chamber Choir at the North Carolina Music Educators Conference in 2016 and Women’s Chamber Choir at the inaugural Music Showcase at the Blumenthal Performing Arts Center. Her dedication to professional development was evident when she presented a workshop at the NCMEA Professional Development In-Service Conference in November 2017, 2021 and 2024. Stephanie has served as a clinician for multiple honors ensembles including Charlotte-Mecklenburg, Gaston County, Union County and Rowan County.

Outside of her professional commitments, Stephanie shares her life with her two girls Loralei (14) and Olivia (12) and her wonderful husband, Allen. balancing her passion for music education with the joys of family life. In her spare time Stephanie enjoys traveling, the beach, reading and spending time with her lifelong friends.