



THE SOUL AWAKENS

WYLIE EAST

VARSITY TENOR-BASS CHORUS

NATIONAL TENOR-BASS CHOIR SEMINAR
— MARCH 7, 2025 | 7:00 PM
SHARP CONCERT HALL | NORMAN, OK



**THE EARTH HAS MUSIC FOR
THOSE WHO LISTEN.**

~ GEORGE SANTAYANA

WYLIE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
PROUDLY PRESENTS

THE SOUL AWAKENS

WYLIE EAST VARSITY TENOR-BASS CHORUS

DR. NATHAN DAME & MR. ANDREW CARR
CONDUCTORS

MR. JIM WILSON
COLLABORATIVE PIANIST

IN CONCERT FOR THE
IMC NATIONAL TENOR-BASS CHOIR SEMINAR

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA SHARP CONCERT HALL
NORMAN, OKLAHOMA

ABOUT WYLIE EAST HIGH SCHOOL

"We Raiders Together... Stand Strong for the Blue and White!"

Wylie East High School, under the leadership of Mrs. Tiffany Doolan, opened in 2007 as a ninth-grade campus. Since then, it has grown to include grades 9-12 and currently serves approximately 2,700 students. Wylie East takes pride in both academics and the extracurricular successes of its students and faculty members. The school is known for its inviting atmosphere, encouragement of student initiatives, character building, leadership, and service. The family-like interaction between students, parents, and staff creates an environment that feels like home.



HOME OF RAIDER NATION

WYLIE EAST HS ADMINISTRATION

Tiffany Doolan, Principal

Karrie George, Associate Principal

Diana Caldwell, Assistant Principal

Kris Cravens, Assistant Principal

Kelly Foster, Assistant Principal

Michelle Lindsay, Assistant Principal

Zachary Neu, Assistant Principal

Mandy Coers, Natalie Nuss, Emily Ragsdale, Jeff Hattaway, Niki Davis,
Jessica Taylor, Amberly Brown, Jennifer Caban-Hernandez, Counselors

WYLIE EAST HS FINE ARTS FACULTY

Atlanta Tigert, Angela Gilpin, Jennifer Thompson, Tina Higa | Art

Greg Hayes, Matt Edwards, Molly Leonard, Nick Giuliano | Band

Stephanie Jackson & Abby Hardage | Dance

Samantha Miller, Donella DiPasquale, Chip Morris | Theatre





Dr. David Vinson, Ph.D.
Superintendent, Wylie ISD

Tiffany S. Doolan
Principal, Wylie East High School

Dear IMC Consortium, Concertgoers, and Supporters of Tenor-Bass Choirs,

I am writing to express my genuine excitement and anticipation for tonight's performance of the Wylie East High School Varsity Tenor-Bass Chorus. Under the exceptional direction of Dr. Nathan Dame and Andrew Carr, our students have been diligently preparing for this magical showcase of talent, and we are honored to have this one of a kind opportunity to share their musical artistry with you.

The dedication and hard work of our students, coupled with the guidance and expertise of their directors, have culminated in a performance that we believe will be a true testament to the power of musical education. We are proud to have the opportunity to contribute to the rich collection of talent.

As we look forward to this performance, we recognize and appreciate the effort and commitment invested by the IMC Executive Board in creating a platform that celebrates and nurtures musical excellence. The collaborative spirit and shared passion for the arts fostered by events like these are a source of inspiration for our students, motivating them to reach new heights in their musical journey.

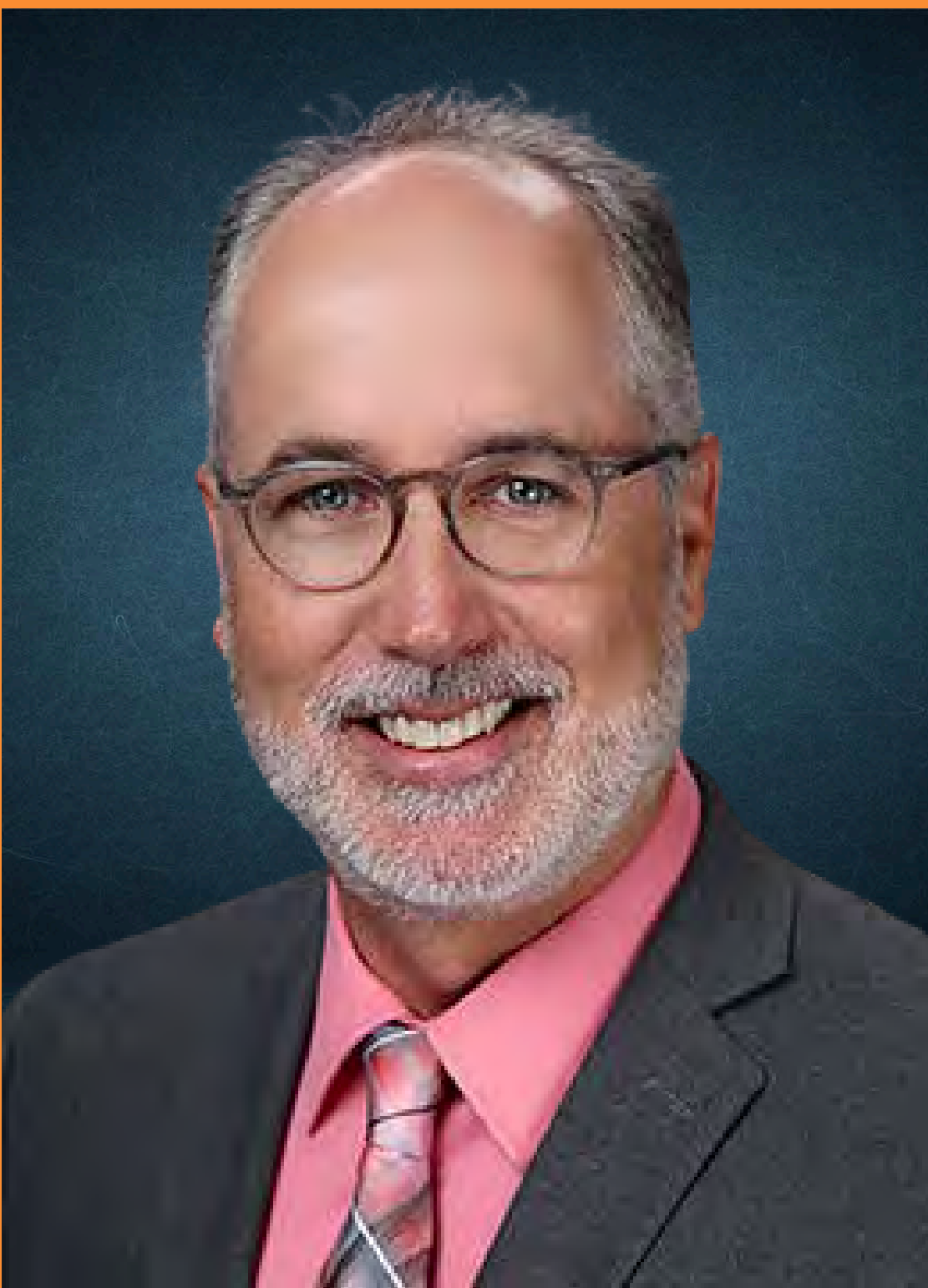
I extend our deepest gratitude for providing this invaluable opportunity to showcase the talents of the Wylie East High School Varsity Tenor-Bass Chorus. Thank you for your ongoing dedication to advancing music education, and we look forward to a memorable and inspiring event.

Sincerely,

Tiffany S. Doolan
Wylie East High School, Wylie ISD
Principal



Mrs. Tiffany Doolan, Principal



Mr. Glenn Lambert, Fine Arts



The Wylie Independent School District is exceptionally proud that the IMC: Tenor-Bass Choral Consortium selected the Wylie East High School Varsity Tenor-Bass Chorus to perform at its national conference. The dedication to excellence demonstrated by the Wylie East choir represents our school district in a truly honorable fashion and exemplifies Wylie ISD's most important goal – student success. This performance marks the second consecutive year for this ensemble to be featured in a convention performance, singing last year at the Southwestern American Choral Directors Association Convention in Denver.

The invitation to perform at this event represents the high level of commitment shown by the directors and students at Wylie East High School, not only in the ensemble performing for you today, but across the entire choral program. A special word of thanks to the conductors of the Varsity Tenor-Bass Chorus, Dr. Nathan Dame and Andrew Carr as well as associate directors Ashley Dame and Chloe Spellmann. Their hard work and dedication in leading and educating these talented young musicians help make Wylie East High School and WISD exceptional. They dedicate themselves to nurturing strong moral character, leadership skills, and a love and appreciation for music in the students they teach.

It is important to acknowledge the team of people who have contributed to the success of this outstanding choral program. I gratefully recognize the support of these students' parents and other family members, their private vocal instructors, the incredibly supportive administrative team at Wylie East High School, the Central Administration Staff, and one of the strongest advocates of the fine arts programs in Wylie ISD, Superintendent, Dr. David Vinson.

The students in the Wylie East Tenor-Bass Chorus and their directors have worked extremely hard to prepare for today's performance. I would like to note that the level of performance you hear today is very similar to what you would hear at any concert presented by this choir throughout the school year. The administration, staff and teachers of Wylie ISD are very proud of these students for their continuing success.

Thank you for attending tonight's concert and for your support of these wonderful and talented students. I know you will enjoy what you hear! I wish each of you a great conference experience this week.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Glenn Lambert'.

Glenn Lambert
Executive Director of Fine Arts

THE SOUL AWAKENS

I. RECKONING & REVELATION

“The Unknown Region” Randall Johnson

“The Unknown Region” explores the journey of the soul into the mysterious afterlife. It begins with a reflection on judgment as the singers set the scene with a chant-like melody and whispering sounds layered over the haunting foundation. Here, the soul faces ultimate reckoning, followed by an eerie journey into an unknown land—one without path, guide, or familiar touch. This space represents the vast uncertainty of what lies beyond life, a place untouched by human senses or understanding. Amidst the uncertainty, the piece culminates in a plea for divine mercy, asking for rest and peace from a compassionate Lord. The song invites listeners to reflect on the soul’s journey, from fear and judgment to the hope for comfort in the face of the unknown.

Santa Barbara Music Publishing, Publisher ID: SBMPI162

“Locus Iste” Kevin Memley

In this program, we explore the awakening of the soul through sacred moments of reflection, renewal, and transformation. “Locus Iste” beautifully encapsulates the theme with its Latin text, “This place was made by God, it is a priceless sacrament and is without reproach.” This declaration speaks to the sacredness of space and experience, where the soul is awakened to a deeper connection with the divine. Just as a sacred space holds transformative power, so too does the soul find awakening in moments of profound realization and renewal. The purity and reverence in the piece reminds us that the soul’s awakening is a sacred, invaluable journey—one that transcends the ordinary and brings us closer to a higher purpose.

Pavane Publishing, Publisher ID: 00291952 | UIL PML Grade V

II. RESILIENCE & REDEMPTION

“The River”Susan LaBarr

Nolan Nash, Guitar

In "The River," the journey of the soul is symbolized by the flowing, ever-changing current of life. The song tells of growth, from boyhood to manhood, and the lessons learned along the way. The river's depths and shallows reflect the soul's journey through hardship and joy, each step contributing to its awakening. The call for spiritual renewal, "baptize me once again in river water," captures the soul's yearning for purification and wholeness, a desire to return to its roots and find peace. Ultimately, the piece is a reflection on the process of awakening, embracing life's flow, and trusting that the soul will find its way home.

Walton Music, Publisher ID: WWI849

“Glory (from *Selma*)”arr. Eugene Rogers

Julius Brumfield, Sam Bamidele, Xaelen Rolfe, Nathan Jacob, Kaleb Maxey, Devin Hayes, Soloists; Aaron Conway, Percussion

"Glory," written for the film *Selma*, is an anthem that reflects the soul's awakening in the face of struggle and the pursuit of justice. The song celebrates the resilience, strength, and hope of those who fought for civil rights, capturing the enduring spirit of a movement rooted in the belief that, despite hardship and resistance, justice and equality will ultimately prevail. Its message of collective action and unwavering determination resonates with the theme of "The Soul Awakens" by highlighting the transformative power of hope and unity. The soul awakens not only through personal reflection but also through the courage to confront injustice and fight for a better future. The song proclaims, "One day, when the glory comes, it will be ours," and calls us to recognize the ongoing struggle for equality as a vital part of the awakening process—one that moves both the individual and the collective toward renewal and purpose. The historical significance of the Selma-to-Montgomery marches, which played a pivotal role in the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, underscores the power of collective action in awakening a nation to the realities of racial injustice and the need for systemic change. The fight is sadly not over - in the last decade alone, over 100 laws in have attempted to restrict voter rights by a variety of means as changing legal landscapes have made doing so possible.

Mark Foster, Publisher ID: 35031147

III. RENAISSANCE & REBIRTH

“The Awakening” Joseph Martin

"The Awakening" is a powerful and evocative anthem that embodies the ultimate moment of spiritual and emotional rebirth. The piece begins with a haunting dream of a silent, desolate land, void of music, joy, and life—reflecting the soul’s isolation and disconnection. However, the dream transforms into a call to action: “Awake, awake! Soli deo gloria!” This cry for awakening urges the soul to rise from silence and embrace the vibrant power of music and praise. The second half of the piece is a jubilant celebration of renewal, where the soul's transformation is realized through song, unity, and a renewed sense of purpose. In the context of "The Soul Awakens," this piece represents the triumphant moment when the soul, once in darkness, emerges into light, finding purpose and joy through the power of music, love, and collective praise. It is a reminder that, no matter how silent or still the soul may feel, there is always the potential for awakening, for the spirit to rise, and for music to fill the emptiness with new life.

Shawnee Press, Publisher ID: 35001492 | UIL PML Grade V

WYLIE FINE ARTS

*“Art enables us to find
ourselves and lose ourselves
at the same time.”
— Thomas Merton*

The Wylie Independent School District, located in southern Collin County, is a rapidly growing school system. It serves over 19,100 students from the City of Wylie and surrounding communities. Covering 41 square miles, the district comprises 20 campuses, including two 6A high schools, one alternative high school, three junior high schools, three intermediate schools, and eleven elementary campuses. Additionally, construction has begun on three additional campuses.

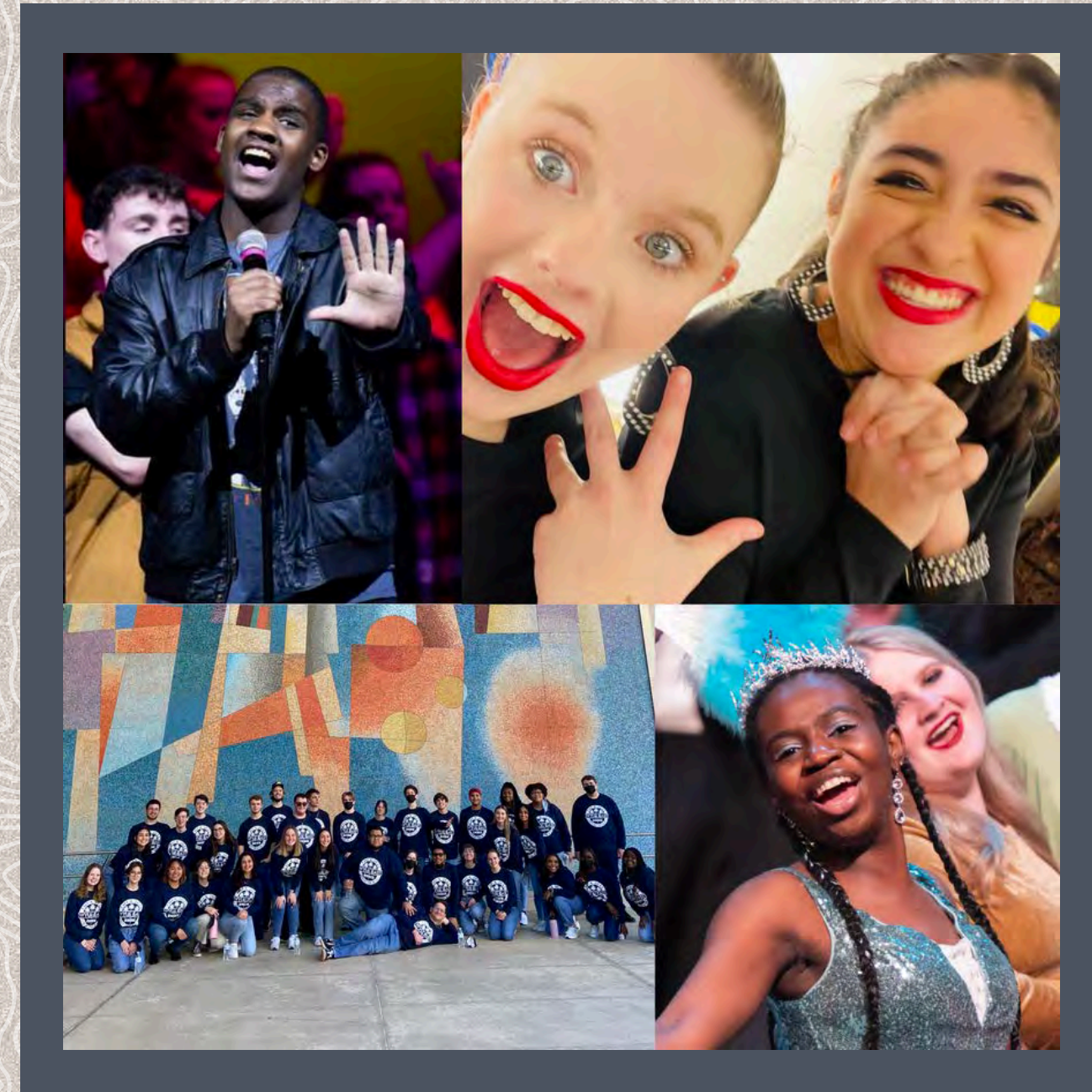
In Wylie ISD, engagement in the Fine Arts is considered crucial for the educational development of students. Fine Arts education begins in Kindergarten and continues through the 12th grade. Certified music specialists teach every student in elementary school, while starting from sixth grade, students can choose from Art, Choir, Band, or Orchestra. Theatre Arts is introduced as an elective in the seventh grade. In grades 9-12, students have the opportunity to take courses in various Fine Arts disciplines such as Band, Choir, Orchestra, Dance, Visual Art, and Theatre.

Remarkably, over 68% of students in grades 6-12 are involved in Fine Arts education, and all 8,800 students in grades K-5 receive Fine Arts instruction. This means that a total of 16,000 students, representing more than 83% of the entire student population in Wylie ISD, participate in Fine Arts programs. The district prides itself on nurturing and promoting the arts, making Fine Arts a vibrant part of the Wylie ISD experience.

WYLIE EAST RAIDER CHOIRS

Wylie East High School boasts one of the largest and most comprehensive choral programs in Texas and the United States. The Wylie East High School Choirs, led by Dr. Nathan Dame, Ashley Dame, Andrew Carr, and Chloe Spellmann have experienced remarkable growth in recent years, with 420 students in thirteen ensembles. Their achievements include superior ratings in local, regional, and state contests, appearances at the Texas MEA and Southwestern ACDA conventions, and designation as two-time National Winners in the National Choral Honors Contest. Over the last eight years, the Raider Choirs have received 28 UIL Sweepstakes awards, earned 254 chairs in the highly competitive TMEA All-Region Choirs, and placed 19 singers in the prestigious Texas All-State Choirs.

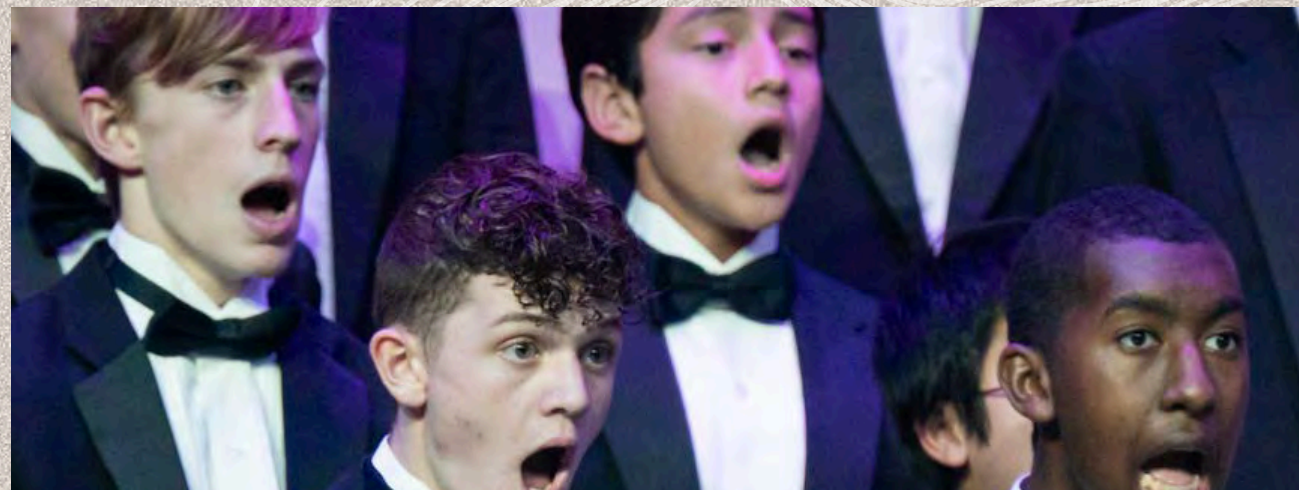
The Wylie East Choirs are committed to providing unique musical and performance opportunities for students and shape experiences based on their four collaborative value statements: *We Over Me*, *Be Inclusive*, *Be Passionate*, and *Music is for Happiness*. East Choirs collaborate with other conductors, composers, and universities through concerts, the commissioning of new works, and embark annually on choir tours to offer life-changing experiences that are open to all students in the choral program.



THE VARSITY TENOR-BASS CHORUS

Varsity Tenor-Bass Chorus is made up of 81 ninth through twelfth grade singers and represent two of the four tenor-bass choirs on campus: A Cappella Choir and Cantus. Students in Varsity Tenor-Bass Choir are well-rounded and active in both the school and community. In addition to our four curricular choirs, our tenor-bass program also includes the *Varsity Blues*, a student-led, extracurricular barbershop ensemble.

Among this group are Solo & Ensemble award winners, All-Region & All-State Choir members, individual and district champions in academics, athletics, and fine arts, and participants in nearly every athletic event and organization on campus. This ensemble consistently receives the highest accolades for choral performance at regional and state contests.



TB CHOIRS AT EAST

The tenor-bass choir program at Wylie East has experienced rapid growth from approximately 25 singers eight years ago to over 160 this school year. At East, we strive to bring the choral singing experience to any student wishing to join and offer four curricular choirs and one extracurricular ensemble. The tenor-bass experience begins with our non-auditioned Concert Tenor-Bass for grades 9-12, followed by our Select Tenor-Bass Choir, which generally enrolls advanced ninth and tenth graders. The choir before you today comprises Cantus, our advanced tenor-bass choir, along with the tenors and basses from A Cappella Choir, our advanced mixed choir. All choirs are team-taught to help students develop as they navigate through the challenges of the voice change.

The performance of the Varsity Tenor-Bass Chorus at the IMC National Seminar marks the second consecutive year with a convention performance for the ensemble, having performed at the 2024 SWACDA Convention in Denver, Colorado as an invited choir last school year.





TENOR 1

Joseph Asfaw, *sophomore*
Sam Bamidele, *senior*, 3
Julius Brumfield, *senior*, 1, 3, 4
David Eric Campbell, *senior*
Adriel Concepcion, *senior*
Logan Drum, *senior*, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
Tyler Fletcher, *senior*, 1
Sunny Huynh, *junior*, 3
Nathan Jacob, *sophomore*, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
Matthew Luna, *sophomore*
Theo Prindle, *sophomore*, 3, 4
Nicholas Recio, *senior*, 1, 2, 3, 7
Seth Townsend, *senior*
Levi Young, *junior*, 1, 3, 4, 7

1 Choir Council, 2 Section Leader, 3 All-Region,
4 Pre-Area, 5 Area, 6 All-State, 7 Varsity Blues



TENOR 2



Joél Cintron, *senior*, 1
Marcuz Clemmons, *junior*
Bryce Crabtre, *sophomore*, 3, 7
Grant Doolittle, *sophomore*
Jonathan Gutierrez, *sophomore*
Devin Hayes, *junior*, 1, 3, 7
Jake Heefner, *sophomore*
Preston Huynh, *senior*
Matthew Johnson, *sophomore*, 3, 4, 7
Jack Kennedy, *junior*
Kaleb Maxey, *sophomore*
Andrew Medeiros, *junior*, 3, 7
Franklin Muoka, *sophomore*
Alejandro Ortiz, *junior*
Xaelen Rolfe, *sophomore*, 3, 7
Brayden Smith, *sophomore*, 3, 7
Cooper Vance, *sophomore*
Henry Walker, *senior*, 1, 2, 3, 7
Landon Whitis, *senior*, 1, 3, 7
Ethan Woodson, *senior*

1 Choir Council, 2 Section Leader, 3 All-Region,
4 Pre-Area, 5 Area, 6 All-State, 7 Varsity Blues

BARITONE

Raphael Ayarkwa-Duah, *junior*, 3, 4, 7

Ethan Berg, *junior*

Mac Chaney, *sophomore*, 7

Miguel Chavez, *junior*, 1, 3, 4

Jordan Chintharasy, *junior*

Lux Crawford, *junior*

Aidan Dieguez, *sophomore*

Brayden Dulaney, *sophomore*

Kevin Escobar, *junior*

Nixon Fraughton, *junior*, 2, 3, 7

Justin Harding, *sophomore*

Tanner Henson, *senior*

Kien Khuu, *sophomore*

Jackson Mills, *sophomore*, 3, 4, 7

Christian Mormile, *junior*, 2

Josh Nazarovich, *sophomore*

Matthew O'Neill, *sophomore*

Boston Philo, *sophomore*, 7

Jordan Rogers, *sophomore*

Jacob Rosewitz, *sophomore*

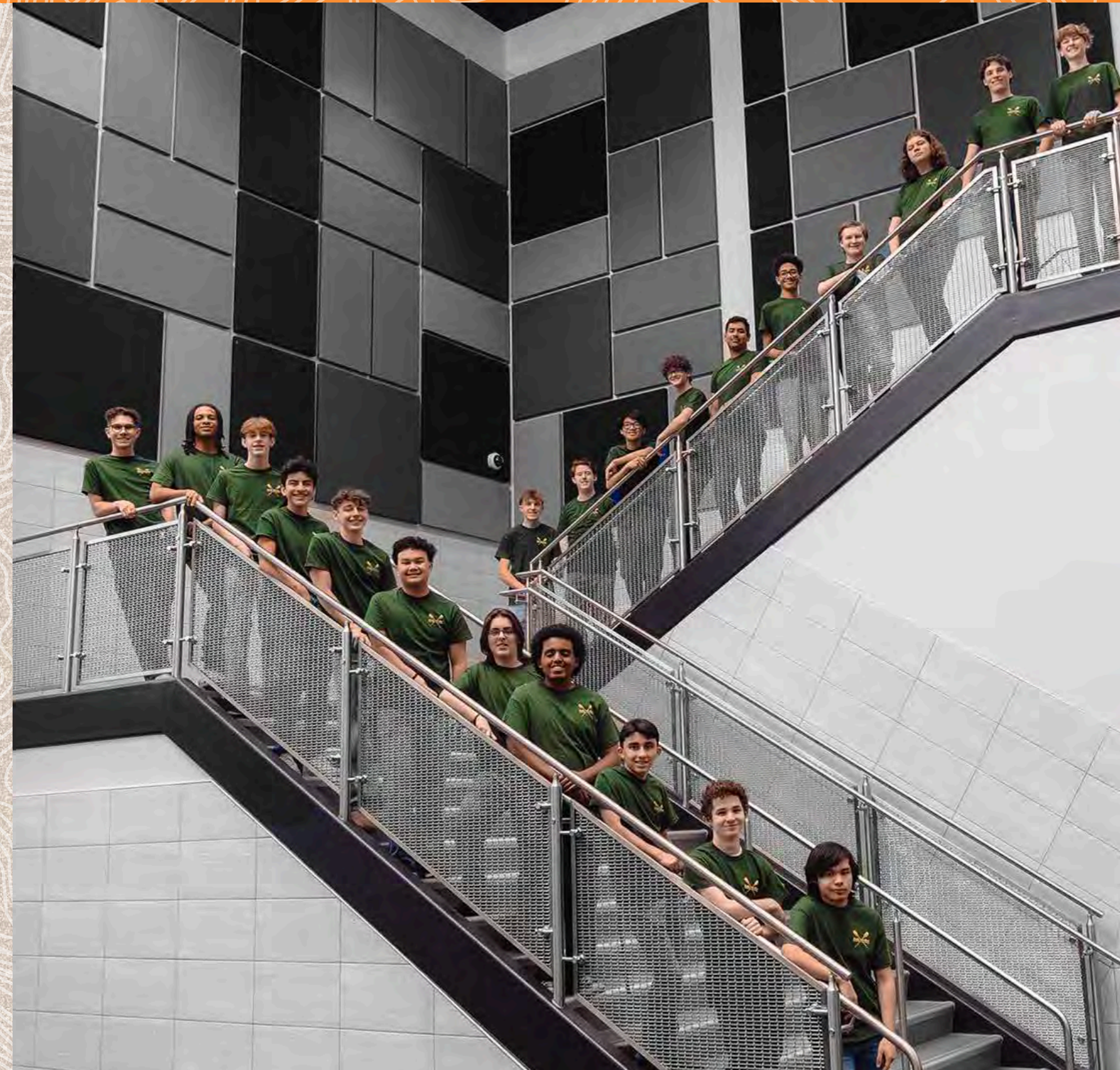
Parker Smith, *sophomore*, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

Matthew Stokes, *junior*, 2

Abel Tefera, *senior*

Pearson Willeford, *junior*

1 Choir Council, 2 Section Leader, 3 All-Region,
4 Pre-Area, 5 Area, 6 All-State, 7 Varsity Blues



BASS



Nathan Atwood, *junior*
Morgan Burnett, *sophomore*
Carter Cheek, *senior, 2*
Femi Fabumuyi, *junior, 2*
Bryce Gilbreath, *junior*
Logan Haas, *sophomore*
Ruben Hossain, *sophomore*
Haywood Huang, *junior*
Sam Lawrence, *senior*
Anthony Luna, *senior*
Nicolas Martinez, *senior*
Nolan Nash, *sophomore*
Calvin Nguyen, *sophomore*
John Perry, *senior*
Kaiden Perry, *freshman*
Nathan Peterson, *sophomore*
Ethan Randall, *junior, 3, 4*
Ranjot Sahota, *senior, 1*
Kyle Smyder, *junior*
Gabe Suson, *junior, 3, 7*
Kenny White, *senior, 3, 7*
Aaron Willeford, *sophomore*
Jadon Williams, *sophomore, 3, 4, 5, 7*

I Choir Council, 2 Section Leader, 3 All-Region,
4 Pre-Area, 5 Area, 6 All-State, 7 Varsity Blues



Dr. Nathan Dame is the Director of Choral Activities and Coordinator of Fine Arts at Wylie East High School. With extensive experience in music education, he has conducted choral ensembles ranging from elementary to collegiate level. At Wylie East, he leads multiple choirs and oversees a thriving choral program with 420 singers across eleven performing ensembles. He holds a Ph.D. in Music Education (Choral Pedagogy) from the

University of Kansas. Dr. Dame has held various leadership positions in the music education community, including serving as two-time American Choral Directors' Association (ACDA) National Repertoire & Resources Chair and two-time Texas MEA Region Vocal Chair. He has been featured as a conductor, clinician, researcher, author, and presenter at national and regional conventions, and his resource "Finding Middle Ground," is published by BriLee. His choral programs have frequently become some of the largest in their region and have received notable performance invitations, including the 2014 & 2024 SWACDA and 2022 TMEA Conventions. He has received numerous awards for his teaching, including being named a National Finalist for the Dale Warland American Prize in Choral Conducting and induction into the Yamaha Class of "40 Under 40" Top Music Educators. Dr. Dame attributes his success to his students, who excel in honor choirs and go on to become leaders in the choral community. He is fortunate to work alongside his partner, Ashley, at Wylie East and together, they aim to make a positive impact on the world through mentoring students in music.



Mr. Andrew Carr, a native of Philadelphia, serves as Associate Director of Choirs at Wylie East. He is in his second year with the Raider Choirs after serving three years as Freshman Director at Legacy Freshman High School in Midland, Texas, where he conducted Ninth Grade Treble & Tenor-Bass Choirs and served in assistant roles throughout the vertical program. Prior to moving to Texas, he was the Choral and

Theater Director for Grades 5-12 in Nanuet Union Free School District in Nanuet, New York. He received his Bachelor of Music in Music Education & Vocal Performance from Ithaca College in 2017. At Wylie East, Mr. Carr conducts the Concert Tenor-Bass Choir, co-conducts the Select & Cantus Tenor-Bass Choirs, and leads the two contemporary popular music ensembles at East: Out of the Blue (SATB) and Blue Horizon (SSAA). Additionally, he serves as Music Director for Wylie East's musical theatre productions. Andrew is a member of the Texas Music Educators Association, the Texas Choral Directors Association, and is passionate about the dynamic possibilities for character and community building that occur in the rehearsal and sharing of excellent choral music. When not teaching or making music, Mr. Carr loves to cook, go to the gym, is a voracious reader, and enjoys spending time with his dog, Jack.



Mrs. Ashley Dame is a passionate choral educator and co-director of choirs at Wylie East High School, where she leads multiple ensembles and oversees the treble choir program. She holds degrees from Mississippi College and Texas Woman's University. A frequent presenter at state and national conferences, her ensembles have performed at TMEA, SWACDA, and National MS/JH ACDA. Recognized with numerous teaching awards, she is also a sought-after clinician-conductor. Her background includes arts marketing, advocacy, and research. She publishes resources for adolescent male choristers through BriLee Music and shares free choral education videos via her YouTube channel, InspireChoir.



Ms. Chloe Spellmann, from Amarillo, Texas, earned her Music Education degree from the University of North Texas. She is in her first year as an Associate Choral Director at Wylie East High School and Harrison Intermediate School. An active member of TMEA and TCDA, she is committed to collaboration and growth in music education. Beyond teaching, she enjoys travel, scuba diving, cooking, reading, and theater. With a passion for fostering a positive and respectful learning environment, Ms. Spellmann looks forward to inspiring her students and sharing her love for music.



Mr. Jim Wilson, originally from Mission Viejo, California, has been an active member of the Dallas-Fort Worth music community for the last thirty years. Jim received a Bachelor of Science degree from Texas Christian University and a Master of Science degree from the University of Arizona. Mr. Wilson currently serves as the pianist at Christ United Methodist Church in Plano, Texas. Additionally, he serves as the accompanist for the Greater Dallas Choral Society, the Ken Davis Chorale, and both the Plano West and Plano Senior High School choral programs. Jim plays keyboards for the band Boomtown, performs with several local jazz and cover bands, and works nationally as a pianist with vocalists and instrumentalists. He is the only pianist to have accompanied all four Texas All-State Choirs in consecutive years. He and his wife Amy are proud parents of two daughters. Mr. Wilson can often be found in Latin America, his happy spot, as well as assisting and advocating for immigrants back home in the United States.

WYLIE ISD LEADERSHIP TEAM

Dr. David Vinson, Superintendent

Dr. Kim Spicer, Deputy Superintendent

Mr. Scott Roderick, Assistant Superintendent, Finance/Operations

Casey Whittle, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

Scott Winn, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services

Jessica Branch, Chief of Staff

Kyle Craighead, Executive Director of Athletics

Glenn Lambert, Executive Director of Fine Arts

April Cunningham, Executive Director of Communications

Ian Halperin, Executive Director of Community Relations

Chris Lamb, Chief Information Officer

Nathan Watson, Executive Director of Operations



Dr. David Vinson, Superintendent

Wylie ISD develops exceptional individuals through character education, including the Wylie East Choir program. They prioritize virtues, fostering students with moral character, musical excellence, and overall growth.



Wylie East High School Vocal Studio

Sandy Shelley, Private Vocal Coordinator
Reagan Bradshaw, Private Vocal Instructor
Hannah Kilpatrick, Private Vocal Instructor
Nick Powers, Private Vocal Instructor
Ryan Wisniewski, Private Vocal Instructor

Wylie ISD Board of Trustees

Dr. Jacob Day, President
Stacie Smith, Vice-President
Kylie Reising, Secretary
Bill Howard
Suzi Kennon
Virdie Montgomery
Mike Williams

*"Not all who wander
are lost."
- J.R.R. Tolkien*

FROM THE TBs: REFLECTIONS ON "GLORY"

"GLORY IS FOUND IN UNITY"

**"JUSTICE AND EQUALITY SHOULD
BE FOR ALL NOT JUST A FEW"**

**"IF ONE GROUP OF PEOPLE IS
SUFFERING, WE ARE ALL
PREVENTED FROM SEEING THE
GLORY"**

**"WE NEED EQUALITY FOR
ALL PEOPLE"**

**"IN A WORLD WHERE RACIAL
INJUSTICE IS COMMON, WE NEED
TO BE SINGING
THESE LYRICS"**

**"WRONGS OF THE PAST HAVE
IN WAYS SUSTAINED TO THE
PRESENT - WE CANNOT
IGNORE THEM"**

**"GLORY IS A DECLARATION, A CALL TO ARMS TO UNITE AND
CELEBRATE THE PROGRESS MADE BY BLACK AMERICANS
WHILE ALSO ACKNOWLEDGING THERE IS WORK TO BE DONE"**

**"IT IS CRUEL TO TAKE AWAY A GROUP
OF PEOPLE'S RIGHTS - OUR GOAL IS
TO BE RESPECTFUL OF EVERYBODY"**

"THERE IS STRENGTH IN DIVERSITY"

**"WE ARE STRONGER WHEN WE WORK
TOGETHER"**

**"WE MUST ALWAYS LOOK FOR
WHO IS BEING PERSECUTED AND
DO WHAT IS RIGHT"**

**"EVERYONE HAS A RIGHT TO THE JUSTICE
THAT IS DUE THEM"**

**"EVERYONE DESERVES
RESPECT"**

**"THE FIGHT IS NEVER TRULY OVER
UNTIL THE SYSTEM IS FULLY
RECONSTRUCTED"**

**"WE ALL HAVE SOMETHING
VALUABLE TO CONTRIBUTE IN THE
FIGHT TO OVERCOME A PEOPLE'S
PERSECUTION"**

**"TO ACCOMPLISH GLORY, WE HAVE TO
UNITE AS PEOPLE"**



RAIDER AREA CHORAL FACULTY & ELEMENTARY MUSIC STAFF

Each of our high school directors is fortunate to assist at our feeder campuses regularly. They hold a firm mindset that their high school choirs are only as strong as the junior high, intermediate, and elementary programs that comprise their vertical team. Our directors and students would like to show sincere gratitude to our colleagues for all of their efforts in building foundations for musical excellence from a young age.

Dr. Nathan Dame, Ashley Dame, Andrew Carr, Chloe Spellmann, Wylie East High School

Lindsay Barnes & Samuel Benavidez, Burnett Junior High

Daryl Jackson & Kassidy Kramer, McMillan Junior High

Brent Barnes & Chloe Spellmann, Harrison Intermediate

Ryan Seekins, Davis Intermediate

Suzanne Vogt, Akin Elementary

Deanna Aaron, Birmingham Elementary

Sara Rond & Marisol Santana, Bush Elementary

Kristin Hayes, Cox Elementary

Erin Parker-Atkins, Hartman Elementary

Amy Burnside & Jeana Crews, Watkins Elementary

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Raider Area Choir Booster Club Executive Board

Wylie East High School Choir Parents & Students

Our families for their love and support throughout this journey

The Wylie East Varsity Treble Choir and their director, Mrs. Ashley Dame, for your support and sacrifices as have put together this program

Mrs. Tiffany Doolan, for her pro-arts vision and leadership of WEHS

Mr. Glenn Lambert, for his unwavering support of choral music in Wylie ISD

Dr. David Vinson, for championing kids in every activity in which they are involved

The legacy of Varsity Tenor-Bass Choirs that our alumni have built

Mr. Mark & Dr. Vicki Baker, for their unparalleled friendship and love

Our outstanding choral mentors and friends, Drs. John Paul Johnson, Debra Hedden, Janet Galvan, and Derrick Fox

Sara Rond & Cathy Koziatek, for your heartfelt contributions to our choral program

Tristen Rouse, for his creative photography and drone operation skills

Dr. David Howard and the IMC Executive Board

Dr. Will Chandler, McNeese State University & Dr. Marques Garrett, UNT, Clinicians



THE WYLIE EAST CHOIR PROGRAM EPITOMIZES AN UNWAVERING DEDICATION AND A STEADFAST COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, INCLUSION, AND REPRESENTATION. THE DIRECTORS AND STUDENTS WORK TO FOSTER AN INCLUSIVE AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT, BRINGING TOGETHER PERFORMERS FROM DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS WHO SHARE A LOVE FOR MUSIC.

VALUING INCLUSIVITY, THE PROGRAM FOSTERS AN ATMOSPHERE WHERE EVERY INDIVIDUAL FEELS RESPECTED AND EMPOWERED TO EXPRESS THEIR AUTHENTIC SELVES. ADDITIONALLY, THEY PROMOTE REPRESENTATION BY INCORPORATING MUSIC FROM DIFFERENT CULTURES AND GENRES, GIVING STUDENTS A VIBRANT EXPOSURE TO GLOBAL MUSICAL TRADITIONS.

To Our Singers:

As we reach the end of this journey, I hope you can take a second to sit back and enjoy the sunrise. The view at the top of the mountain is unimaginable, isn't it? You have truly transformed this year, not just as a choir, but as people. Just as a soul awakens through reflection, growth, and renewal, so too have each of you transformed through your dedication, challenges, and triumphs. The music we've shared has not only been a celebration of what we've achieved together, but also a reminder of the boundless potential within each of you, waiting to be awakened. When we first began this year, not long after closing last year's chapter of our "Summit" SWACDA journey, the road ahead may have seemed uncertain especially with so many new voices in *this* Varsity Tenor-Bass Chorus, but you embraced every step with open hearts and a willingness to grow. The music and memories we have made together has brought us closer to a deeper understanding of who we are as individuals, as a choir, and as a community. You have challenged yourselves and others to look deep within and to allow your soul to awaken through the music we have created together. Together, you have found strength, your voice, and a greater purpose. Remember that the journey of awakening never ends. Each experience, challenge, and step forward is a new opportunity for the soul to awaken in new ways. The music, the lessons, and the courage you've shown will continue to guide you long after we leave this stage. Know that you have awakened something powerful within yourselves—and that power will take you far. Keep singing, keep growing, and continue to awaken the world around you.

"LET MUSIC LIVE!"

Doc, Mr. Carr, Mrs. Dame, and Ms. Spellmann



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