



**Selina C. Midkiff & Dr. Rollo Dilworth,
Festival Conductors**

Dr. Rollo Dilworth is an active conductor, educator and clinician who has taught choral music at the elementary, secondary and university levels. He is a contributing author for the *Essential Elements for Choir* textbook series and for *Music Express* teachers magazine. His research interests are in African American music and music education curriculum and instruction. Dilworth is an award-winning composer, and his choral compositions are a part of the Henry Leck Choral series.

In 2008, Dr. Dilworth conducted concerts under the theme "Perform in Harmony-Salute to the 2008 Beijing Olympics" in Beijing, Shanghai, and Xi'an. He directed a choir of 340 students from five United States high schools during performances in Shanghai and Beijing. The concerts were held in the Oriental Arts Center in Shanghai and the Forbidden City Concert Hall in Beijing. Dilworth composed a special piece written in Chinese and English, a feat accomplished as he is fluent in Mandarin. The director of the Shanghai Philharmonic invited Dr. Dilworth back in December 2009 since the Chinese were impressed by his work. When asked about his experience, Dr. Dilworth said that the Chinese are very gracious and proud of their heritage. They appreciated the American choir members learned to sing in Chinese.

Mrs. Selina Midkiff is the founder and artistic director of the Appalachian Children's Chorus. She has a bachelor's and master's degree in music education from West Virginia University. Mrs. Midkiff has studied children's choral techniques and conducting with such renowned conductors as Henry Leck, Barbara Tagg, Doreen Rao and Sandra Murphy. She was awarded the Artistic Teacher Certification from Doreen Rao's Choral Music Experience Institute and is currently the ACDA WV and Southern Division R&S Chair for children's choirs.



Mr. Ron Sowell serves as co-director for the festival. He is best known for his role as the musical director of the internationally acclaimed public radio show, Mountain Stage. Ron Sowell is also a dynamic singer/songwriter, guitarist performer and producer. We so happy to have him as an artistic consultant.



APPALACHIAN CHILDREN'S CHORUS presents

APPALACHIAN FESTIVAL of YOUNG VOICES

May 24 - 28, 2012

Visit a beautiful, safe river city!

“The accommodations were excellent and the logistics made it one of the easiest tours we have ever done. Thank you again for a very meaningful festival experience, and one I would recommend to others!”

- LuAnn Holden,
Chattanooga Girls Chorus

Festival fee includes:

- 4 nights of lodging
- 7 meals (4 breakfasts, 1 lunch and 2 dinners)
- Square dance with live music
- Festival handbook
- Festival monogrammed polo
- Visit to the Vandalia Gathering
- Shuttle bus transport
- Private time with Dr. Rollo Dilworth
- Children's choir music workshops
- Professional storyteller
- Q & A time with Dr. Rollo Dilworth, WV Country Music Hall of Famer Billy Edd Wheeler and Ron Sowell
- Final performance in the Clay Center
- Performance with classical orchestra and world class string band.
- Visit to the Avampato Museum
- Commission Fees

Festival Features

- Individual and festival choir performance at Charleston's state-of-the-art Clay Center
- 4 nights at Charleston's luxurious Embassy Suites Hotel
- Performance with a traditional string band and orchestra
- Participation in West Virginia's culturally-rich Vandalia Gathering
- Visit the Avampato Discovery Museum
- Individual choir time with Dr. Dilworth
- Amazing opportunity to personally interact with composer/conductor Dr. Dilworth, singer/songwriter Billy Edd Wheeler, singer/songwriter Ron Sowell
- Square dancing with live music and Appalachian storytelling

Festival Fee

- \$500 per person. Transport to and from Charleston, WV is the responsibility of the individual choirs. One complimentary trip per 25 paying choristers is provided.

Registration Information

- For questions and information about the festival, please call 04.343.1111, visit our Web site at wvacc.org or e-mail selina@wvacc.org.
- Interested choirs should complete the application form found on our Web site and submit it with an audio or video audition tape and a \$500 nonrefundable fee to the Appalachian Children's Chorus.

Attendance

All treble choirs are invited to register, whether it represents a school, church or community. The choristers' age range should be between nine and 17.

May 24-28, 2012

Schedule

- Thursday:** check in, rehearsal, story time
- Friday:** two rehearsals, free time, welcome dinner, square dance party
- Saturday:** two rehearsals, Vandalia Gathering, free time, mass rehearsal, Q&A session
- Sunday:** Individual rehearsal, mass rehearsal, private time with Dr. Dilworth, dinner at concert venue, performance



Registration Deadline: November 15, 2011