

FVA PRESIDENT-ELECT CANDIDATE

Jason Locker



Jason Locker is the director of choral activities at Bloomingdale High School in Hillsborough County. Previously he led choral programs in South Florida and in Cobb County, Georgia—opening two new high schools along the way. He received the BME from the University of Florida, the MME from Florida State University and certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. He is pursuing the PhD in educational leadership and policy studies at the University of South Florida.

Choirs under Mr. Locker's direction consistently receive superior ratings at district and state performance evaluations. His choirs have accepted invitations to perform in several university choral festivals, for the Florida Chapter of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA), at Carnegie Hall and most recently in the Archbasilica of St. John Lateran in Rome.

Mr. Locker is an active member of the National Association for Music Education (NAfME), the Florida Music Education Association (FMEA), the Florida Vocal Association (FVA) and ACDA. He also holds memberships in Phi Mu Alpha

Sinfonia music fraternity, the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the American Educational Research Association and the Florida Blue Key leadership honorary. He has presented district professional development workshops as well as interest sessions at conferences of FMEA, ACDA, Phi Mu Alpha and the Tri-M Music Honor Society.

He has served as a member of the FMEA Board of Directors, as FVA clinic chairman, as a Florida ACDA repertoire & resources chairman on two occasions and as an online NAfME choral mentor. Additionally, he participated in the 2015 FMEA Summer Institute, served as a scorer for the Florida Performing Fine Arts Assessment Project, participated in the FMEA Emerging Leaders program and was a writer for the School District of Hillsborough County's secondary music curriculum maps.

An active honor choir clinician and adjudicator, Mr. Locker currently serves as a Southern Division ACDA repertoire & resources chairman, as FVA all-state chairman and as secretary of the Hillsborough County Secondary Music Council. He is a member of The Festival Singers of Florida and serves as the chancel choir director at Beymer Memorial United Methodist Church in Winter Haven. His favorite moments, however, are those spent as "Uncle Jason" to his six nieces and nephews! ☺

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Kevin Albright

For those whom I've yet to meet, my name is Kevin Albright, a loving husband and the father of two daughters, and I am honored to be asked to serve as your next Florida Vocal Association president.

I am working on my 19th year of teaching high school chorus in Brevard County. My experiences have been: Melbourne High School (11 years); opening our county's newest high school, Heritage High School (four years); and currently Viera High School (in my fourth year.) Each school, just as anyone else's school, came with its own unique challenges, and I have always been thankful for the positive partnership my career has had with the Florida Vocal Association along the way.

I have served on the FVA board in various capacities totaling, at least, 11 years over the span of my career. I started and maintained our first website (fva.net). I helped to usher in vocal quality testing to All-State. And recently, I spearheaded MPA sight-reading changes that allow for more authentic, educational practices. I feel that my experiences have prepared me to be a good steward of the position of president, bringing a sense of where the organization has been, yet ready to

respond and grow with the current wishes and ideas of the board.

I am passionate about lifting up students through our programs. The origin of my websites, thesightreadingproject.com and theincompletecurriculum.com, have been about creating communities that share for the mutual success of all music teachers. In my roughly 20 years around education in Florida, I have watched the FVA evolve, much more so, toward that same educational philosophy; and I do believe we have greater resources and opportunities than ever before to continue building our network and professional capacities through this organization.

I hope that my history of prior leadership, at the county and state levels, speaks to my perceived strengths, including an optimistic temperament, listening skills, down-to-earth pragmatism and problem-solving skills. As far as I see it, the outcome of this election is a "win-win"! So in whatever capacity it may be for me, I look forward to contributing and investing along with you in the FVA. ☺

