

SOUTH DAKOTA

AMERICAN CHORAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION



2026 SD-ACDA Summer Conference

Thursday, July 23 & Friday, July 24
Meier Hall - Black Hills State University

Thursday, July 24

8:30 Registration

9:30 Welcome – Room 207

9:45 Discovering Your Inner Superhero: Authentic Teaching in Today's Classroom

Coty Raven Morris

11:00 Keeping it R.E.A.L.: Culturally Relevant Teaching in Today's Classroom

Coty Raven Morris

12:15 Lunch Break - on your own

- Board Meeting w/ the Sr. Honor Choir Board

1:45 Visit Popplers - Room 206

2:15 Observe Honor Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room 130

3:00 We Tell Each Other's Stories: Repertoire for Innovative Concert Programming - Room 207

Coty Raven Morris

4:30 R&R Reading Session - Room 207

5:30 Dinner Break - on your own

7:30 Sightreading Remix: Sightreading Success for All - Room 207

Coty Raven Morris

9:00 Reception at Spearfish Brewing Company – 741 N Main St Suite 130, Spearfish

Friday, July 25

9:00 I Lead with My Spirit: An Interactive Choral Rehearsal (reading session/rehearsal) - Room 207

Coty Raven Morris

10:15 Visit Popplers - Room 206

10:45 Membership Roundtable Discussion - Room 207

11:30 Lunch Break - on your own

- 1:15 Jr. Honor Choir Reading Session - *Ann Deckert / Lindsey Torgerson*
- 2:15 All State Reading Session - *Ben Van Moer*
- 3:00 General Membership Meeting - *Janice Gilbert*
- 4:30 Dinner Break - on your own
- 7:30 Honor Choir Concert (location TBA)



Welcome Coty Raven Morris!

Coty Raven Morris is a proud alumnus of Texas State University-San Marcos where she studied with Drs. Lynn Brinckmeyer, Jonathan Bacock, and Joey Martin. She received her Master of Music in Choral Conducting from Michigan State University in the Spring of 2020 under Drs. David Rayl, Jonathan Reed, and Sandra Snow.

She is currently the Hinckley Assistant Professor of Choir, Music Education and Social Justice at Portland State University. Prior to this, she was the Director of Choirs at Crosby High School in the Houston area and has served as the Outreach Choir Director at the MSU Community Music School and Music Director at Grand Ledge United Methodist Church. Her choirs received consistent Sweepstakes & Division I ratings at UIL and choral festivals.

Morris was the recipient of the Hays CISD Linebarger Academic Recognition Award for 2013 & Galena Park ISD's Dazzling Diamond Award in 2014, 2016, 2017, and 2018 for outstanding mentorship and leadership in her field.

Morris is a sought-after clinician throughout the United States. She has presented at educational conferences and professional developments across the country including the American Choral Directors Association, Texas Music Educators Association, and the National Association for Music Education.

She sings with Mirabai, a professional women's ensemble that aims to enhance the artistic expectations of women's choral singing by connecting powerful music of women, past and present; and performing, commissioning, and recording new and innovative music that express the rich emotional terrain of a woman's life. Morris has been a choir member of the South Texas Vocal Artists and has devoted over a decade of summers to working as a camp director at the Texas State University, Northwestern University, and Lamar University Music Camps.

Coty Raven Morris is the Founder of Being Human Together, a budding music education community striving to normalize difficult topics in our field through conversation and connection. BHT seeks to discuss traditionally taboo topics like mental health, systemic oppression, diversity, and inclusivity.