

Professional Development Session
February 10, 2009
MTVA General Membership Meeting
7:00 p.m.
St. Cecilia Academy - Nashville



Royale Ideas for a Royale Feast

Have you ever wanted to start a madrigal dinner at your school, but did not know where to begin? Are you a teacher who inherited a tradition and feel a little overwhelmed? This session will answer many of your questions from where to begin, choosing the food, time of year, and performance venue to how to set ticket prices, handle publicity and seating, staging, script, costumes, and last but not least – the music.

Dr. Jamila L. McWhirter
Middle Tennessee State University
Professor of Choral Music Education

Dr. Jamila L. McWhirter is Assistant Professor of Choral Music Education at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro where she teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in choral music education, applied voice, conducts the MTSU Women's Chorale, and supervises student teaching interns. She is also the founder/director of the female a cappella ensemble MTSU Bel Canto. The MTSU Women's Chorale has been selected by audition to perform for the 70th Anniversary Gala Celebration of Shawnee Press in June 2009 at Carnegie Hall. Dr. McWhirter currently serves on the Tennessee Music Educators Association Executive Board as the TNMEA Higher Education Chair. She has also served as the TNMEA CMENC Faculty Advisor through which she founded/organized the Tennessee CMENC State Wide Fall Kick-Off. In the past, she has served on the boards of the Missouri Choral Directors Association (State Treasurer; District Representative), Missouri Music Educators Association (District President; District Past President; District Vocal Vice President) Missouri Fine Arts Academy, and festival rating committees for the Missouri State High School Activities Association. She has been and continues to serve as a presenter, clinician, guest conductor, and adjudicator throughout the United States. Her music education research has been published in the *Journal of Research in Music Education* and presented at the National MENC Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah. She was also recently a presenter at the MTNA National Group Piano and Piano Pedagogy Symposium in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.