

Tom T. Shelton, Jr.

guest artist

Tom T. Shelton, Jr. is a native of Greensboro, N.C. and a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, where he earned both a Bachelor of Music Education and Master of Music in Choral Conducting. He is Associate Professor and Chair of the Choral Studies, Music Education, and Sacred Music Department at Westminster Choir College. In addition, he is the director of Children's and Youth Choirs at Princeton United Methodist Church and conducts the Semi-Tones Ensemble with the Princeton Girlchoir Organization.



Professor Shelton has a passion for music education in all areas: church, school and community. He taught middle school choral music in Winston-Salem/Forsyth County for 18 years. During that time he was selected Teacher of the Year for both Atkins Middle School and Kernersville Middle School. In 1999 the North Carolina Music Educators Association presented him with the North Carolina Middle School Music Teacher of the Year award.

Professor Shelton is an active member of the American Choral Directors Association, having served as the National President (2017-2019). Other ACDA leadership positions have included Southern Division president (2011-2012), National R&S chair for Middle School/Junior High Choirs (2007-2009) and North Carolina president (2005-2007).

Professor Shelton has conducted and adjudicated choral festivals, as well as presented workshops in 21 states as well as Hong Kong; Minsk, Belarus; Jakarta, Indonesia; and Sri Lanka. He has conducted Choral Festivals in Carnegie Hall; Honor Choirs for the Central Division ACDA and Southern Division ACDA; as well as All State and Festival Choirs throughout the United States. Professor Shelton is the Music Education Editor for Hinshaw Music, and is the Series Director for the Music for Young Voices Series with GIA Publications. He has compositions published by Choristers Guild, Colla Voce Music, G. Schirmer, Galaxy, GIA Publications, Growing in Grace Curriculum, Heritage Music Press, Hinshaw Music Company, Morningstar Music, Musicspoke.com, Santa Barbara Music Press, and Walton Music.

Cheryl Dupont

artistic director

Cheryl Dupont is the Executive/Artistic Director of the New Orleans Children's Chorus. Although she is known throughout the United States for her work with children's choirs, Cheryl is equally experienced at working with mixed choirs on the high school, college and adult levels. Other experience includes teaching and conducting in elementary and middle schools and churches. Her choirs have won numerous awards in music festivals throughout the South, and have appeared at state and regional conferences of the American Choral Directors Association, and the national conference of the Organization of American Kodaly. NOCC made their solo debut at Carnegie Hall in New York in 1997, and have subsequently performed there many additional times.

Mrs. Dupont is in demand as a guest conductor, clinician and adjudicator. She has conducted many all-state choirs throughout the country, and in Italy, and frequently guest conducts children's, middle school, junior high and high school honor choirs throughout the Southeast. Cheryl has conducted at Carnegie Hall six times, and will conduct there again in May of 2024. She is a Master Teacher for the Choral Music Experience Institute, working in the field of advanced training of choral teacher/conductors. For fifteen years Cheryl directed CME courses in South Carolina, North Carolina and Kansas, and served as a Teaching Associate at CME Institutes in the US, England, Sweden, Scotland, Ireland and Wales. In addition, she is the Artistic Director and Conductor of the Crescent City Choral Festival, an annual choral festival for children throughout the United States, which is in its twenty-third successful year. She has also conducted Children and Youth Honor Choirs at ACDA Regional Conferences (Southern and Western).

Mrs. Dupont has assumed many leadership roles on the district level of the Louisiana Music Educators Association. An active member of the American Choral Directors Association, she served six years as Southern Division Repertoire and Standards Chair for Children and Community Youth. She is the founder and chairperson of the Louisiana ACDA Children's All-State Honor Chorus. Cheryl recently completed three terms as ACDA National Chair for Children and Community Youth.



Crescent City Choral Festival

A festival for treble and mixed choirs

June 28-July 2, 2024



You'll fall in love with New Orleans.

Cheryl Dupont, Artistic Director
Tom Shelton, Guest Artist

Sponsored by the
New Orleans Children's Chorus

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History & Hope



*Come to New Orleans...
a historic and unique city.*

The New Orleans Children's Chorus is delighted to present the 23rd annual Crescent City Choral Festival, which will be held in downtown New Orleans **June 28-July 2, 2024**. The festival offers young singers the opportunity to work with native New Orleans conductor **Cheryl Dupont**, guest artist and composer, **Tom Shelton**, and sing with other choirs in one of America's most interesting cities.



Featured Attractions

- Mass choir rehearsals with Tom Shelton and Cheryl Dupont
- Celebration concert in historic St. Louis Cathedral in Jackson Square or Immaculate Conception Church
- Individual performance on final concert (optional); other individual performance opportunities
- Post-concert celebration party on the Mississippi River
- Admission to the Aquarium of the Americas
- Dinner and Dancing Evening
- Free time to explore the Riverwalk, the Zoo, the French Quarter and other New Orleans attractions, and to dine on wonderful New Orleans cuisine
- Optional pre-festival concert
- Commissioned work by Tom Shelton to be premiered at the final concert.

Venues subject to availability.



Hotel Accommodations

Festival package includes four nights and five days accommodations in the beautiful Loew's hotel, or other nearby hotels in downtown New Orleans. The only meals included in the Basic Package are the Dinner/Dance and the Post-concert Cruise, but the Deluxe Package includes all meals and activities.

Schedule

Friday: arrival, hotel check-in, first rehearsal

Saturday/Sunday: one massed choir rehearsal each day, free time for sightseeing, Dinner and Dancing Evening

Monday: Rehearsal at St. Louis Cathedral or Immaculate Conception Church, massed choir concert, dinner cruise on Riverboat Natchez

Tuesday: departure

Who May Attend

All SATB or SAB High School choirs are eligible to attend the Mixed Choir track. School, community and church choirs are encouraged to apply. Any treble chorus is eligible to apply, whether it is a girls' choir, boychoir or children's choir – representing school, church or community.



Application Information

Interested choirs should complete the enclosed application form and mail it with a CD or DVD and the \$50 non-refundable application fee to the New Orleans Children's Chorus. The audition recording must feature at least three selections from the 2021-2022 or 2022-2023 season, and must be accompanied by at least one program from the 2021-2022 or 2022-2023 season. The festival will have a rolling admission until all spaces are filled. Interested choirs are asked to apply early, as space is limited. Letters of acceptance will be issued within two weeks of application receipt. The \$750 festival deposit and contract must be returned to NOCC within 2 weeks of receipt of festival acceptance.

Preferred deadline is October 1, 2023. Applications received after October 1, 2023 will be accepted on a space available basis.

Cost

\$629 per person, quad occupancy
Basic Package with inclusions described
\$929 per person, quad occupancy, Deluxe
Package including all meals and activities

Great Music Making and FUN!