AND THE

ECU STUDENT CHAPTER OF THE
AMERICAN CHORAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION

proudly announce the fourth annual

High School Choral Leadership Conference
Saturday, January 16th, 2016

A. J. Fletcher Music Center
Greenville, North Carolina
Dr. James Franklin, Director of Choral Activities
Dr. John Ratledge, guest clinician

D esigned as a unique “honors” choral experience for high school singers and interested teachers, this event will feature visiting clinician Dr. John Ratledge (Director of Choral Activities at the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa), as well as ECU choral and vocal faculty. High school music educators will nominate a balanced quartet or octet of the most deserving choral leaders (grades 10-12) from their choir, and may accompany them to the conference. Students and teachers will participate in reading/rehearsal sessions of selected high-quality choral literature, specifically chosen by the clinician for this conference. During the event, students will focus on leadership in regards to building an ensemble, vocal production, choral techniques and strengthening musicianship. Interested students may also attend a master class with ECU vocal faculty for coaching on their solo vocal literature. This is a tremendous resource especially to those preparing for college auditions. Additionally, teachers are invited to attend a lunchtime conductor session, focusing on choral teaching and rehearsal strategies. All participants will enjoy ECU student and faculty performances—including the award-winning, internationally renowned ECU Chamber Singers.

The event will run from approximately 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM. A detailed schedule of activities will be sent to all registrants at a later time.

To register, please visit http://www.ecu.edu/cs-cfac/music/voice/choralresources.cfm and click on the application link. Registration is due by January 6th, 2016.
Dr. John Ratledge is currently in his twelfth year as Conductor of University Singers, Area Coordinator of Graduate Choral Conducting, and Director of Choral Activities at the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa. Dr. John Ratledge teaches graduate conducting, literature, and pedagogy.

Ratledge made his European conducting debut in 1996 with the Filharmonia Sudecka of Walbryzychu, Poland, and since that time, he has conducted orchestras in France, Greece, Hungary, Romania, and Spain. He made his Korean conducting debut in 2008 when he conducted the Dangjin-gun Chorus, a professional choir in Dangjin, South Korea. Ratledge has conducted at Carnegie Hall four times, including two solo choral concerts. He will return for a fifth concert at the prestigious venue in May 2015. He has conducted thirteen concerts at Atlanta’s Spivey Hall, of which, nine of the performances were sold out.

Dr. Ratledge has conducted over 300 clinics throughout the United States, in addition to conducting All State and Region Choruses in Alabama, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Texas, Louisiana, New Hampshire, New York, Oklahoma, and Tennessee.

In 2003, Ratledge was named Distinguished Alumnus at Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, Tennessee. Most recently, he was selected the 2011 recipient of the prestigious Druid City Musician of the Year Award presented by the Arts and Humanities Council of Tuscaloosa for outstanding contributions to the arts in the community.

Ratledge is the Founder and Artistic Director of the Bassi Brugnatelli International Conducting and Singing Symposium held in Robbiate, Italy. This young artist program focuses on the unique relationship between conductors, singers, and orchestras. The symposium offers master classes, coaching sessions, opera scenes, and multiple concerts for the participants in an historic 1630 villa. The symposium doubled in size in 2015, and the third symposium will be held 4 – 13 July 2015. Please visit www.bassibrugnatellisymposium.com for more information.

Ratledge’s compositions are published by Carl Fischer, Alliance Music, Southern Music, and Cambiata Press. In recent months, his compositions have received international attention.

Dr. Ratledge is currently the interim Director of Music at First United Methodist Church in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.
East Carolina University
High School Choral Leadership Conference
January 16th, 2016

Schedule

8:30 am – 9:30 am  Registration
9:30 am – 12:00 pm Rehearsal with Dr. Ratledge
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Lunch; teachers in attendance may Dr. Ratledge during this time
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm Rehearsal with Dr. Ratledge
2:45 pm – 3:30 pm Concert with members of the ECU voice faculty and the ECU Chamber Singers
3:30 pm – 4:00 pm Q & A with Dr. Ratledge

***There will be two vocal master classes that will take place throughout the day. Specific times will be provided during check-in on the day of the event. Participating students should bring two copies of their music.***