

High School Honor Choir with guest clinician Shawn Kirchner and featuring the Frost Chorale

Friday, October 30, 2026 ~ 9am-ca.9pm
University of Miami
Gusman Concert Hall
1314 Miller Dr, Coral Gables, FL 33146

Dr. Matthew Brady
Director of Choral Activities

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CONTACT: FrostHonorChoir@miami.edu

We are very excited to provide this opportunity for your students to work with internationally renowned composer, arranger, and performer Shawn Kirchner, widely celebrated for his iconic bluegrass-infused choral settings and his longtime work with the Los Angeles Master Chorale. High school students from across the state and beyond will join us for a day of workshops and music-making with Shawn Kirchner, Dr. Matthew Brady, Frost Chorale, and the students of the Frost Choral Studies Program.

Who is Shawn Kirchner?

Shawn Kirchner is a composer, arranger, and songwriter based in Los Angeles whose choral works are performed by ensembles worldwide. From 2012 to 2015, he served as the Swan Family Composer-in-Residence for the Los Angeles Master Chorale, with whom he has also performed as a tenor for over two decades. Kirchner is widely celebrated for his ability to bridge classical choral traditions with American folk, bluegrass, and hymnody. His vibrant bluegrass-inspired settings, including the popular “Unclouded Day” from his triptych Heavenly Home, have become staples of the modern choral canon. As a performer, he appears regularly across the country as a singer and pianist, bringing a rich background in improvisation and multi-genre musicianship to his work.

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Who is the Frost Chorale?

The premier choral ensemble of the Frost School of Music, Frost Chorale performs a diverse repertoire spanning the choral canon, premieres new works, records acclaimed performances, and tours nationally and internationally. The ensemble regularly appears at regional and national conventions and collaborates with professional orchestras on major choral-orchestral works.

Who can participate in the honor choir?

This is an opportunity for you to honor your highest achieving students to come make music with world-renowned composers and clinicians. **There is no audition**; instead, high school choral directors can register up to two quartets (total eight students, balanced number of sopranos, altos, tenors, and basses) to participate. We are looking for those truly dedicated students of a high musical caliber who will relish a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity such as this. If you would like to participate, but have need to bring fewer or more than the requested amount (or would like to request to bring an unbalanced quartet), please reach out to us at FrostHonorChoir@miami.edu - include the number of students you wish to bring, and their voice parts.

How should I select my students?

You may use any method you wish. If you have students in mind you know would rise to the challenge and excel at this opportunity, you can pick them with no audition. If you would like to audition your students, that is fine as well. We only need to know who you are sending.

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, September 18	Deadline to register students
Friday, September 25	Registration payment must be received (see below) Release Agreement forms signed and uploaded
Wednesday, October 14	Vehicle information due if parking on campus
Friday, October 30	Honor Choir Day, 9am-ca.9pm <i>This year, we are very excited to offer a formal Honor Choir performance as part of the Frost Chorale concert with Shawn Kirchner and Dr. Matthew Brady at 7:30pm in Gusman Concert Hall - please plan to stay for the entire performance</i>

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Registration

To register students, complete the Google Form (below) with the following information:

- Director information
- School/Organization information
- Chaperone information
- For each student: name, voice part, emergency contact name and phone, and t-shirt size
- If you would like to purchase a parking pass from the University
- Indication that the director(s), chaperone(s), and student participants have read and understand the University of Miami's Youth Protection Policy, found [here](#). (Please share this link with the students.)

[Register Here](#)

Once registration is complete, you will be emailed an invoice you can use to complete payment (see below).

Payment/Price List

Student: \$50

Chaperone: \$30

Parking Pass: \$13

**Buses are free to park on campus - no parking pass is required*

Once registration is complete, you will be emailed an invoice. To pay this invoice by credit card (preferred), a payment link will be provided here once it is available.

Payment can also be submitted via check made out to *University of Miami*. (Invoice must be attached to the check) Please mail checks to:

University of Miami
c/o High School Honor Choir
5499 San Amaro Drive, PLF N 303
Coral Gables, FL 33146

***Payment must be **received by Friday, September 25th, 2026.**

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Release Agreement Form

Along with your invoice, please complete the attached Release Agreement Form. Please have all students and their appropriate guardians sign this form. When signed, please upload PDFs of the forms [HERE](#)

Music

Once payment is received, students (and teachers) will receive a digital copy of the music they are to learn. They should print their own music to bring with them in a black folder or binder. Students need to be able to confidently sing their part when they arrive at the honor choir so that we do not need to review notes and rhythms. To aid in the learning process, we will provide practice tracks for all pieces.

Selected Pieces: *Unclouded Day* and *I'll Be On My Way* by Shawn Kirchner

Teachers and Chaperones

Each school/organization must have at least one registered chaperone in attendance throughout the Honor Choir. **Chaperones must have a Level 2 background check to represent their school/organization and attend the event.** Many schools already require this; check with your administration if needed. We do NOT need documentation of completion. The chaperone may be the teacher/director. Please follow your organization's, school's, and county's chaperone guidelines. Chaperones are responsible for guest students and must be with them at all times. Teachers/directors are not required to attend, but are highly encouraged. This is a great opportunity to watch Shawn Kirchner and Dr. Matthew Brady work with your students, and we will sign any paperwork needed for professional development. Teachers who attend must also register.

Transportation (registration and more detail will be provided)

Students, chaperones, and directors must provide their own transportation to and from the event. University parking passes are available for \$13; buses do NOT need parking passes. Once registration and payment are complete, you will receive a link to purchase a parking pass and enter your vehicle information. Please complete this by **Wednesday, October 14**. Parking passes are digital, so you will not receive a physical pass. The parking pass is valid Friday only; for parking on other days, please follow the University's [visitor parking guidelines](#). Visitor parking will be in Pavia and Levante Garages (see parking map attached to this document). If you wish to fly, the closest airport is Miami International Airport (MIA).

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Schedule and Concert

Registration begins at 8am in the Gusman Concert Hall lobby. The honor choir begins at 9am with lunch and dinner breaks (on your own) and concludes with the combined Frost Chorale and Honor Choir concert at 7:30pm. **It is important all participants stay and perform in the evening concert.** Only honor choir participants, chaperones, and teachers are allowed in the honor choir rehearsals during the day, but all friends and family are invited to attend the concert at 7:30pm. All Honor Choir participants and chaperones, once registered, will receive a code for one free ticket to the concert (honor choir participants will sit in the audience and do not themselves need a ticket). Once you receive the code, sign up for tickets quickly, as these spots are limited. **Ticket information and the livestream link will be provided here once they are available.**

Lunch

Lunch will be on your own on the University of Miami campus. There are several restaurant options within walking distance. All students must be with their chaperone during lunch.

Dinner

Dinner will be on your own in Coral Gables around the campus. (Most campus food locations are closed at this time.) There are numerous restaurant options within driving distance. All students must be with their chaperone/parent/guardian/teacher during dinner. It is important all students are picked up at 4:30pm outside Gusman Concert Hall and return by 6:30pm. No students may stay in Gusman, as there will be other rehearsals.

Expectations

It is the expectation that all students will be on their best behavior throughout the honor choir. You are representatives of your school and guests of the University of Miami. Please make sure you are familiar with and follow your own school/organization's code of conduct. In addition, please read the University of Miami's Youth Protection Policy, found [here](#).

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Attire

During the day, students should wear school-appropriate attire that is casual but still looks nice. (Long pants, skirt, jeans without rips, nice t-shirt, blouse, etc.). If they have a t-shirt from their school/organization Chorus program, they are welcome to wear that.

Upon arrival, each student will receive a t-shirt. For the concert, please wear this **honor choir t-shirt and solid black bottoms** that go at least to the knees. There are no specific shoe requirements.

Hotel Accommodations

For those needing overnight lodging, the following hotels are close to the University. There are many other options as well - these are just some places to start looking:

Hampton Inn Miami Dadeland

8200 SW 70th Ave

Miami, FL 33143

305-269-0072

[Website](#)

Courtyard Miami Dadeland

9075 S Dadeland Blvd,

Miami, FL 33156

305-670-1220

[Website](#)

Four Points by Sheraton Coral Gables

3861 S.W. 40th Street

Coral Gables, Florida, 33146

305-567-0534

[Website](#)

Hilton Miami Dadeland

9100 N Kendall Dr,

Miami, FL 33176

786-975-1920

[Website](#)

Campus Tour

While you are here, consider turning your trip into a college visit! In addition to many excellent courses of study (especially music!), the University of Miami in Coral Gables has a beautiful campus with many unique qualities. If you would like to schedule a campus tour a day or two before or after the honor choir, please [click here](#). The Frost School of Music also offers excellent tours that you can schedule [here](#). Hurry! Spots fill up quickly.

We are very excited about this opportunity to host your students!
If you have any questions, please email us at FrostHonorChoir@miami.edu.

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