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An Equal Opportunity
School District

February 22, 2024

Dear Fellow Music Lovers,

It is my pleasure to congratulate the Lafayette Senior High School Madrigal Singers for being selected to perform at the 2024 American Choral Directors Association Southern Division Conference. It is a remarkable honor for this ensemble to be invited as one of only four high school programs to perform at this prestigious event, showcasing the exceptional musical talent and dedication of Lafayette's students, staff, and community.

Under the learned direction of Ryan Marsh and Laura Howard, the Lafayette High School Madrigal Singers have prepared a program that is not only musically captivating but also deeply meaningful. The conference theme of "Where our Spirits Soar" is interpreted by the Madrigal Singers as "Spirit: the intangible essence that animates all living beings". This through-thread binds together a program that features music from one of the earliest known female composers, Hildegard von Binge; a piece set to text by the abolitionist poet Harriet Beecher Stowe; an Indonesian folk song that teaches the listener about togetherness amidst strife; and modern compositions that nod to tradition and point toward a hopeful future.

The Lafayette Madrigal Singers are not this school's only exceptional fine arts program. Each of Lafayette's arts programs is award-winning, with ensembles and individual students who are successful on state, national, and even international stages. With over 60% of its students enrolled in fine arts courses and over 500 in music classes, Lafayette High School stands as a testament to the belief that the arts are for everyone. The students performing this afternoon represent a small portion of a talented student body who have chosen to dedicate themselves to the musical arts with obvious and outstanding results.

The Fayette County Public Schools Department of Fine Arts extends a heartfelt congratulations to the Lafayette Madrigal Singers on this invitation and the hard work and dedication it represents. We have no doubt that their performance will be a highlight of the conference, enabling the spirits of all those in attendance to soar unexpectedly and reassuringly through the power of collaboration and song.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Katherine J. Lowther".

Katherine J. Lowther
Director of Fine Arts
