

D. BRENT BALLWEG

(brief biography)

In 2019, Dr. D. Brent Ballweg joined the National Office staff of the American Choral Directors Association as Associate Director and Conference Liaison. In this capacity he assists ACDA leadership produce national and regional conferences all across the country. Prior to that, for 37 years he held college and university conducting positions in Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, Arizona, and Missouri, most recently as the Burton H. Patterson Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities in the College of Fine Arts at Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Oklahoma and as Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities at Southern Nazarene University, Bethany, Oklahoma. He has also served as the artistic director and conductor of the Plano (TX) Civic Chorus, assistant director of the Kansas City Symphony Chorus, and founder and director of the Northeast Arkansas Chorale. Dr. Ballweg has gained national recognition through winning first place in a national choral conducting competition held in Nashville, Tennessee, representing the United States as a participant in conducting masterclasses at the International Federation for Choral Music Fourth World Symposium on Choral Music and World Choirs Festival held in Sydney, Australia, and masterclasses with the Phoenix Bach Choir at the Southwest Conductor's Symposium. In January 2008, Ballweg made his NYC Carnegie Hall conducting debut with a return engagement in 2018. Ensembles under Ballweg's direction have performed as invited honor choirs for the Oklahoma Music Educators Association Conference and have toured to Austria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Mexico, Russia and throughout the United States.

Professionally, Dr. Ballweg has served as President of the American Choral Directors Association Southwestern Region, Oklahoma Choral Directors Association, and Texas Two-Year College Choral Directors Association. He has also served as the ACDA National, Region, and State R&R Chair for Two-Year College Choirs and on numerous planning committees for ACDA national and region conferences. He has studied with such noted teacher/conductors as Robert Burton, Eph Ehly, Paul Salamunovich, Robert Shaw, Frieder Bernius, and Stefan Parkman among others. In 2012 Dr. Ballweg was named a Director of Distinction by the Oklahoma Choral Directors Association and in 2016 was honored with the Exemplary Teacher in Higher Education Award by the Oklahoma Music Educators Association. A native of Bartlesville, Oklahoma, Dr. Ballweg received his B.M. degree from Oklahoma Baptist University and his M.M. and D.M.A. degrees in choral conducting respectively from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music.