

Michael Dye 2018 Wall of Fame Inductee FVA

Michael Dye, Choral Director, Niceville High School

2018 Wall of Fame Inductee, Florida Vocal Association

Niceville High School choir director, Michael Dye of Valparaiso, was inducted into the Florida Vocal Association Hall of Fame at the 2018 FVA Summer Convention in Altamonte Springs in July. Dye joined retiring director Jamie Bryan (Palm Beach Gardens High School), and Connie Drosakis (Bak Middle School of the Arts), into the now 29-member Hall of Fame that includes founding members of the FVA.

Dye began his 29th year as choral director at Niceville High School this fall and his 43rd year as a vocal music educator.

A native of Pine Bluff, Arkansas, Mike received the Bachelor of Music Education Degree from Henderson State University – Arkadelphia, and the Master of Music Education Degree from Arkansas State University – Jonesboro.

Dye began his directing career at Southwest Junior High School in Hot Springs, AR. After one year he accepted the choir director's position his alma mater, Dollarway High School, in Pine Bluff. He served there for 12 years before being named a graduate assistant at Arkansas State University.

While teaching in Arkansas, Mike was elected state president of the Arkansas Choral Directors Association and later as the president of the Arkansas Chapter of the American Choral Directors Association. Dye was chosen as the ArkCDA's Senior High State Director of the Year in 1989.

In 1990 Dye was hired as the choral director at Niceville High School. In 2004 Dye was selected Niceville High School's Teacher of the Year, and runner-up for the Okaloosa County Teacher of the year.



Dye was twice the FVA District 1 chair and later served as president of the Florida Vocal Association. While FVA president, he served on the board of the Florida Music Education Association. He also served as the All-State and State Music Performance Assessment Chair. Dye is currently the chair for the FVA Past-President's Committee. In June, Dye completed a two-year term as president of the Florida School Music Association.

In 2013 Dye conducted the Florida All-State Men's Chorus. In 2017 he was chosen to direct the Arkansas All-State Female Chorus. Under his baton Niceville choruses have earned 15 FVA State MPA "Choirs of Distinction", the most of any secondary school in Florida. During the 2016-2017 season, Mike conducted the Northwest Florida Symphony Orchestra Chorus.

Dye is an active clinician and adjudicator. He has adjudicated the state choral festivals in Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Alabama, Louisiana, and Florida. Dye is a member of the American Choral Directors Association, the Florida Music Education Association, and the National Association for Music Education. His Niceville Singers have performed in the Czech Republic, Austria, Germany, the Netherlands, France, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, England, Italy, Spain, and China. The Singers have also sung in Carnegie Hall three times.

Dye is married to Wanda Thomas Dye, a Niceville High School graduate. They have two sons, Matthew Norton of Pensacola, and Timothy Norton of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, also Niceville High School graduates.