

Stanley L. Roberts, Bio

Stanley L. Roberts is the *Arthur Lowndes Rich Professor of Choral Conducting and Director of Choral Studies* in the Townsend School of Music of Mercer University. Now in his 24th year at Mercer, Dr. Roberts conducts the *Mercer Singers* and the *Mercer Women's Chamber Choir*, while teaching graduate and undergraduate courses in conducting, choral literature and techniques. Additionally, he is conductor and artistic director of the *Choral Society of Middle Georgia*, an 80-voiced ensemble that collaborates with the *Mercer University Choir* for performances of major choral/orchestral works. Choirs under his direction have sung on numerous programs for the Georgia Music Educators Association, the Southern Division of ACDA, and the Southern Division of NAFME (MENC). With the *Mercer Singers*, he has led six highly successful international tours of Great Britain, Eastern and Western Europe, Russia and Japan, with performances in St. Paul's (London), Ely Cathedral (Ely), St. Vitus (Prague), St. Peters (Vatican), Matthias Church (Budapest), Christ Church (Oxford), Great St. Mary (Cambridge), Hibiki Hall (Kitakyushu), Cappella Hall (St. Petersburg), Spivey Hall (Atlanta), and Carnegie Hall (New York). Further, the *Mercer Singers* have collaborated with several international choirs including the Warwick University Chamber Choir (England), St. Petersburg University Chamber Choir (Russia), the Gnessins Chamber Choir (State Music College, Moscow), and Claudio Monteverdi Choir (Castelfiorentino, Italy). Under the baton of Dr. Roberts in 2012, the Mercer Singers joined with the McDuffie Center for Strings at Mercer, and Emmy® Award-winner Brandenburg Productions to film *A Grand Mercer Christmas* that was distributed to much acclaim throughout the United States by PBS.

A passionate educator and mentor, Dr. Roberts has received recognition as *Mercer University's Outstanding Faculty Member of the Year*, *Mercer University Professor of the Year*, and the *Townsend School of Music Professor of the Year*. Highly regarded as a clinician he has conducted All-State Choirs, Honor Choirs, and Festival Choruses throughout the United States, England, and Europe. He has presented and led at numerous regional and national workshops/conferences and music organizations as well as universities, colleges, churches, and schools.

An energetic and active member of the ACDA & NAFME (MENC), he has served in numerous leadership capacities for both organizations. He is a Past President for Georgia ACDA and served as Program Chair for the 2016 ACDA Southern Division Conference in Chattanooga, TN. A strong advocate for church music for over 35 years, he is an editor of the hymnal *Celebrating Grace* (2010) and currently serves as Minister of Music at the First Baptist Church of Christ in Macon, Georgia—a position he has held for 26 years. In 1994 he became the founder and director of *jubilate!*—a mass choir singing & touring experience for church youth choirs across the southern United States. Dr. Roberts is a proud alumnus of Mercer University (1984) and is married to performer/teacher and fellow Mercerian Marie Jarriel Roberts (soprano).