



Eduardo García-Novelli was born in Argentina, where he served 8 years as Choir Director at Belgrano Day School in Buenos Aires and as Assistant Conductor of the National Youth Choir. Former Assistant Director, Houston Symphony Chorus, and Director, Symphony of Southeast Texas Chorus, he received the Faculty Merit Award for distinguished teaching as Director of Choral Activities, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX. Two undergraduate degrees from state conservatories, Argentina. MM: Westminster Choir College, Princeton, NJ. DMA: University of Houston. His choirs performed for TMEA, WMEA, WCDA, NCCO National Conference, the International Choral Festival in Panama City, Panama and on several National, European and South American tours. He made his conducting debut at Carnegie Hall in 2011, returning in 2015 and 2017. In 2016 he was in residence at the Academy of Music in Ljubljana, Slovenia, lecturing and conducting the award-winning AVE Chamber Choir. Other international engagements include MidAm Festival, conducting Mozart at the historical Peterskirche in Vienna, the Coro Nacional de Jóvenes (in residence), Madryn Canta Festival (clinician), Tous Ensemble (guest conductor) all in Argentina, and leading Carthage Choir to win First Prize at the prestigious Spittal International Choir Competition in Spittal, Austria, in July 2019.



Joey M. Martin is Professor of Music at Texas State University where he serves as the Interim Director for the School of Music. Prior to his current appointment, Dr. Martin served as the Director of Choral Activities and Associate Dean for the College of Fine Arts and Communication. For twenty years he directed the internationally acclaimed Texas State Chorale and currently teaches graduate courses in conducting, choral literature, and rehearsal technique. He served as the National ACDA Repertoire and Resources Chair for College and University Choirs for seven years and continues his professional service with the National Collegiate Choral Organization. Dr. Martin has conducted honor choirs and presented master classes and clinics in twenty-seven of the United States and in fifteen countries on six continents. Under his direction, Texas State Chorale toured internationally, including much of Europe, South Africa, and China as well as performances for numerous conferences including TMEA, SWACDA, ACDA, and the International Kodály Festival. In 2019, he was appointed to the Fulbright Specialist roster to represent the United States throughout the world. In his spare time, he dreams of culinary school.



Elisa Fraser Wilson is Director of Choral Activities at The University of Texas at El Paso, where she coordinates the Choral/Voice Area, conducts the Concert Chorale and Chamber Singers, and teaches undergraduate and graduate choral conducting, pedagogy and literature. Formerly the director of the UTEP Opera Workshop, she was chorusmaster and director of the Young Artist Program for El Paso Opera 2009-2013. She is the director of the UTEP Children's Choir and a regular chorusmaster for the El Paso Symphony Orchestra. She holds degrees in Choral Music Education, Voice Performance, and Choral Conducting and Literature from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (B.S. and DMA) and Wichita State University (M.M.). Wilson has conducted numerous collegiate, secondary, and community choirs, including children's, jazz and show choirs, and is a regular clinician/adjudicator for local, regional, and national educational performance festivals. Under her direction, the UTEP Concert Chorale has appeared at the Texas Music Educators Association Clinic/Convention (2021) and with the UTEP Trombone Choir at the Big 12 Trombone Conference (2019); additionally, members of the Concert Chorale perform in residency biennially with the prestigious Leeds (St. Anne's) Cathedral choirs in Leeds, England. Wilson holds professional memberships in the ACDA, TCDA, NCCO, TMEA, Sigma Alpha lota, and Pi Kappa Lambda.

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Richard Bjella Director of Choral Studies Emeritus, Texas Tech University, has distinguished himself as a conductor, clinician, choral pedagogue, and choral arranger. He has been honored to have his choirs appear at the 2009 and 2013 National ACDA Conventions, as well as performances at Carnegie Hall, Orchestra Hall, and TMEA conventions. In addition, Bjella's graduate conductors also received finalist poducting competitions at two of the most recent National ACDA Conventions and

recognition in conducting competitions at two of the most recent National ACDA Conventions and one was awarded the Julius Herford Dissertation Prize. He has conducted and presented master classes throughout the world and at over 400 festivals and workshops in 32 states. He is also active in the promotion of creative choral programming and is a contributing writer for the book, The Oxford Handbook of Choral Pedagogy (2017) with his chapter, The Art of Successful Programming: Study, Selection, and Synthesis. Bjella also served as President of the WCDA (Wisconsin) and was awarded the prestigious Lawrence Excellence in Teaching Award (2007) and the Morris Hayes Lifetime Achievement Award (2013) from WCDA. Most recently, Bjella was the recipient of the 2017 Professing Excellence Award at Texas Tech University. He has served as the Artistic Director for the San Antonio Chamber Choir since 2014.



Gary Packwood is recognized as an inspirational and motivational conductor, pedagogue, and lecturer who has appeared throughout North and South America, Europe, and Asia. Now in his 30th year of teaching, Dr. Packwood has conducted all-state and honor choirs in 35 states. During the 2021-2022 academic year, Dr. Packwood is scheduled to conduct the Texas Music Educators Association TB All-State Choir; Wisconsin Music Educators Association SATB Middle – Level All-State Choir; ACDA Northwestern Regional TB Choir; and the ACDA Midwestern Regional SATB Choir. Dr. Packwood is currently a professor of music and director of choral studies at Mississippi State University, where he oversees and administers all aspects of the undergraduate and graduate choral music education degrees. Dr. Packwood has published articles in the Choral Journal, Teaching Music, the 2nd Edition of the AmeriGrove Dictionary, and a book chapter in GIA's Publication of Conducting Men's Choirs. A Lifetime Member of the ACDA, Dr. Packwood is a past president of the Southern Region of ACDA (2017-2019) and is a Southern Representative for the National Collegiate Choral Organization. Dr. Packwood earned the Bachelor of Music Education degree from Southeastern Louisiana University, the Master of Arts degree from Florida Atlantic University, and the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in choral conducting and literature from Louisiana State University.



Anthony Trecek-King has cultivated an international reputation as a choral conductor, scholar, pedagogue, and media personality. He is passionate about cultivating artistically excellent ensembles that explore socially relevant issues through emotionally immersive programs. Dr. Trecek-King has recently been appointed as Director of Choral Activities at The Hartt School, University of Hartford, and a Resident Conductor with the Handel and Haydn Society. Ensembles under his direction were integral to projects that have won a Pulitzer Prize, received a Grammy and earned the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award from Presidential Committee on the Arts (Boston Children's Chorus). Dr. Trecek-King has worked with a variety of artists and ensembles including Leslie Odom Jr., Melinda Doolittle, Seraphic Fire, Keith Lockhart, John Williams, Gil Rose, Simon Halsey, Yo-Yo Ma, and Roomful of Teeth. He has led performances in Boston Symphony Hall, the Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall, Royal Albert Hall, and the Sydney Opera House. He can be seen on-air and online on the WGBH television series Sing That Thing, and two TEDx Boston talks. He holds a B.M. in Cello Performance from the University of Nebraska at Omaha, an M.M. in Orchestral Conducting from the Florida State University, and a D.M.A. in Choral Conducting from the Boston University.





