

Margaret Collins Stoop

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Founding director, Adesso Choral Society - Member, Ridgefield Arts Council
President, Connecticut Composers, Inc.

Education:

- August 2005 Private seminar study in choral conducting with Dr. Wayne Abercrombie, Director of Choral Activities at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.
- Sept. 2002 - Nov. 2004 Private composition study with Dr. Robert Carl, of the Hartt School of Music, Hartford, CT
- Sept. 1996 – June 1998 Aaron Copland School of Music of the City University of New York
M.A. in Music Composition
Positions held: Treasurer, President of the Composers' Forum
- Sept. 1992 – May 1993 The City University of New York Graduate Center
Enrolled in the doctoral program in Music Theory
- Sept. 1990 – May 1991 Yuet Wah Music School, Hong Kong
Studied Chinese Folk Music and Chinese Flutes
- Sept. 1990 – May 1991 Private study with Timothy Wilson, of the Hong Kong Philharmonic
Continued studies of flute technique and performance
- June 1989 - Aug. 1989 Summer Latin Greek Institute of the City University of NY
Intensive studies in Attic Greek
- Sept. 1985 – May 1989 Smith College, Northampton, MA
B.A. in Music cum laude, with High Honors in Music for a thesis entitled "*On the Horizontal and Vertical in Selected Works by Schoenberg and Webern*"
Positions held: Head Resident
- Sept. 1983 – May 1985 Mannes College of Music Preparatory School, New York, NY
Positions held: First Chair Flute in the Prep. School Orchestra
- Sept. 1981 - May 1985 The Loyola School, New York, NY
College preparatory Jesuit high school

Honors and Awards:

2008, 2009, 2010 **ASCAP Plus Award**

- May 2007 **First Prize** in the Berkshire Children's Chorus Composition Competition, for "maggie and milly and molly and may."
- June 2006 **Masterworks Prize** from ERM Media for "Gnosis."
- April 2006 **Masterworks Prize** for "The Shepherd and the Night Sky." The song was recorded by Kiev Philharmonic Chamber Choir and is on the disc Holiday of the New Era, published by ERM Media.
- April 2005 "Before and After the End," string quintet, performed at the **national concert** of the National Association of Composers, USA (NACUSA) at California State University in Northridge, CA

- May 2002 **Honors Distinction** in the Waging Peace Through Singing Competition, for
"Prayer For Peace: E Pluribus Unum," sponsored by the University of Oregon
- Jan 1998 **Finalist** in the American Romanian Team for the Arts Young Composers
Contest, for "Before and After the End." As a result, the piece was performed in Romania by
members of the Black Sea Philharmonic.
- Oct. 1997 **Commission** received from the "Door Eendracht Sterk" Fanfare Band of
Hedel, the Netherlands, to commemorate their hundred year anniversary
- May 1989 **Settie Lehmann Fatman Award**, for the best composition in large form at
Smith College, for "Wind Quartet"
- May 1988 **Settie Lehmann Fatman Award**, for the best composition in small form at
Smith College, for "Sanctum, Sanctum, Sanctum"
- May 1985 Recipient of the **Musicians' Emergency Fund grant**, to be used to purchase a professional
model flute.
- Sept. 1983 Merit scholarship to the Mannes College of Music, Preparatory Division
- Sept. 1981 Merit scholarship to The Loyola School

List of Original Works and their Performance Histories:

Stoop's works have been performed throughout the United States:

Northridge, CA; Danbury, Hamden, Norwalk, Ridgefield, South Windsor, Southport, Wilton, CT; Atlanta, GA; Marion, IN; Great Barrington and Northampton, MA; Lubec, ME; Raleigh, NC; Freeport, Hewlett, Manhattan, Massapequa, Queens, Stuart Manor, NY

and abroad:

Budapest, Hungary; Constanta, Romania; Hedel, the Netherlands; Prague, the Czech Republic

Vocal:

Ask Me No More for mezzo soprano and piano, setting the poem by Gerard Manley Hopkins

*February 26, 2010 at the NACUSA National Convention in San Marco, TX by Sally Booker and
Torrey-Jeanne Laws-Nicola*

Domestic Work for mezzo-soprano and piano, setting the poem by Natasha Trethewey.

Gnosis for SATB chorus, vibraphone and marimba, setting the poem of the same name by
transcendentalist poet, Christopher Pearse Cranch.

Recipient of the Masterworks Prize, 2006

*Nov. 28, 2007 by the Queens College Vocal Ensemble and members of the Queens
College Percussion Ensemble.*

*Nov. 15, 2007 by the Queens College Vocal Ensemble and members of the Queens
College Percussion Ensemble.*

Hestia's Loom for SSAA *a cappella* chorus, setting an excerpt from the poem "The Webbing of Women"
by Susan S. Fulljames.

April 10, 2005 by the Adesso Choral Society in Danbury, CT

March 5, 2005 at the ACDA Women's Choral Convention in Northampton, MA, and on a tour

March 2005 to Budapest and Prague, by the Smith College Chamber Singers

Nov. 13, 2004 by the Smith College Chamber Singers in Northampton, MA

maggie and milly and molly and may for SA chorus, flute and piano, setting the poem by E. E. Cummings

First Prize in the Berkshire Children's Chorus composition Competition, 2007
May 26, 2007 by the Berkshire County Children's Chorus, Great Barrington, MA
May 12, 2007 by the Atlanta Young Singers of Callenwolde, Atlanta, GA
April 4, 2004 by the Adesso Choral Society in Southport, CT, Ali Ryerson on flute
June 12, 2004 by the Adesso Choral Society in Danbury, CT

Prayer for Peace: E Pluribus Unum for SATB *a cappella* chorus, setting 47 different words for 'peace' from 56 different languages.

Honors Distinction in the Waging Peace Through Singing Competition, 2002

Sanctum, Sanctum, Sanctum for SSA chorus and piano, setting an excerpt from Kurt Vonnegut's *Requiem*, translation into Ecclesiastical Latin by John F. Collins.

Recipient of the Settie Lehmann Fatman Prize for best composition in small form, 1988
May 1988 by members of the Smith College Faculty, Northampton, MA

The Shepherd and the Night Sky for solo singer, SAB chorus, flute and piano, setting words by the composer.

Recipient of the Masterworks Prize, 2006

December 7, 2008 by the Newtown Chorale, Newtown CT
May 2006 recorded for ERM Media by the Kiev Philharmonic, Robert Ian Winstin conducting.
Released on Holidays of the New Era CD by ERM Media on Nov. 15, 2006.

Song of Thanksgiving for SATB chorus and keyboard, setting psalm 108

September 19, 2004 at the Forging Links Conference of the Christian Fellowship of Art Music Composers (CFAMC) in Raleigh, NC.

March 1993 by the St. Joseph Choir, Astoria, Queens, NY, and unnamed further occasions
arranged for SATB chorus, two flutes, two French horns, piano and string orchestra:
May 1993 by the St. Joseph Choir and the St. Joseph Chamber Orchestra, Astoria, NY

Tree Trilogy a work in three movements, for adult SSAA chorus, children's chorus and piano.

City Trees for SSAA chorus and piano, setting the poem by Edna St. Vincent Millay.

The Talking Oak a round in three parts for children's chorus and piano, setting the poem by Mary Carolyn Davies.

May 30, 2007 by the Scotts Ridge Chamber Singers in Ridgefield, CT

I am Tree for SA adult chorus, children's chorus and piano, setting words by the composer

Instrumental:

Before and After the End for two Violins, Viola and two Cellos

Finalist in the American Romanian Team for the Arts Young Composers Competition, 1998

April 22, 2005 by members of the California State University, Northridge, CA
July, 1998 by members of the Black Sea Philharmonic in Costanta, Romania
Dec. 1997 by members of the Julliard School

Circle Jam for Flute, Cedar Flute, Clarinet, Djembes, Dun-dun, Shakere, Claves and Maracas (four players)

May 1998 by members of the CUNY Queens Graduate Composers Forum

A Day in Martin Park for piano solo

March 21, 2010, by Matthew Oster in Freeport, NY at the Long Island Composers Alliance Music for Students Concert

For me and Allen for Flute and Piano

October 16, 2010, the composer on flute and Allen Brings on piano, at the FFAMC Conference at Indiana Wesleyan University, Marion, IN.

October 4, 2009, the composer on flute and Allen Brings on piano, at the Wilton Library, Wilton, CT for Connecticut Composers, Inc.

May 11, 2009, at Christ and St. Stephen's Church in NYC, NY, for National Composers USA
April 18, 2009, the composer on flute and Allen Brings on piano, at the Danbury Music Center, Danbury, CT for Connecticut Composers, Inc.

Four Steps for Violin, Cello and Double Bass

Hedels Fanfare for Brass Band and Percussion

Commissioned by the "Door Eendracht Sterk" Fanfare Band of Hedel, the Netherlands

Oct. 1, 1998 to commemorate the one hundred year anniversary of Door Eendracht Sterk

Lonesome Flute: Fantasy on a Native American Theme for flute solo

Sept. 25, 2007 by Andrea Ceccomori, in Hewlett, NY at the Long Island Composers Alliance concert

Jan. 2006 by the composer, at the Lifetime Learners' Institute at Norwalk Technical Community College in Norwalk, CT

June 12, 2004 by the composer, in Danbury, CT
April 4, 2004 by Ali Ryerson, in Southport, CT

October 4, 1999 by the composer, in Stuart Manor, NY

June 9, 1999 by the composer in Massapequa, NY

June 1998, by the composer, at an AIDS benefit in Flushing, Queens, NY

May 1997, by the composer, at CUNY Queens College, NY

May 1997, by the composer, at CUNY Queens College, NY

Moody Morning for piano solo

March 29, 2009, by Matthew Oster in Freeport, NY at the Long Island Composers Alliance Music for Students Concert

A Night Song for flute, cello and piano

June 5, 2006: the composer on flute, Adam Grabois cello, Allen Brings piano. In Manhattan, NY at the NACUSA East Coast Division concert.

May 21, 2006 : the composer on flute, Adam Grabois cello, Allen Brings piano. In Hamden, CT at the Connecticut Composers, Inc. concert.

Signe's Song for flute, oboe and guitar

Commissioned by George Cork Maul and The Constellation Trio

December 6, 2009 by The Constellation Trio at a LICA concert in Shoreham, NY.

November 6, 2009 by The Constellation Trio at a LICA concert in Cutchogue, NY.

Sometimes for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Double Bass

Time Pieces five short movements for solo piano

Sept. 9, 2007 by Jerry Reed in South Windsor, CT at a Connecticut Composers, Inc. concert

April 10, 2005 by Dana La Porta in Danbury, CT

Aug. 18, 2004 by Jon Leichty at the Summerkeys Festival in Lubec, Maine

Wind Quartet for flute, oboe, clarinet and bassoon

Recipient of the Settie Lehmann Fatman Prize for best composition in large form, 1989.

May 1989 by members of the Smith College Music Department, Northampton, MA

Vocal Arrangements:

How Great Thou Art an arrangement of the traditional hymn for SATB a cappella chorus

Water's Comin' In an arrangement of the original work, words and music by Evelyn Avoglia.

Set for SSA a cappella chorus

March 25, 2007 by the Adesso Choral Society in Ridgefield, CT

Welcome is the Season an arrangement of the original work, words and music by Claudia Chapman.
Set for SSA chorus, flute and piano
Dec. 17, 2006 by the Adesso Choral society in Ridgefield, CT

What Wondrous Love is This? an arrangement of the Southern Harmony hymn, for SSA a cappella
Jan 24, 2010 by the Adesso Choral Society in Ridgefield, CT.
April 10, 2005 by the Adesso Choral Society in Danbury, CT

Publications:

The Shepherd and the Night Sky, on ERM Media CD, "Masterworks of the New Era Holiday CD".
Recorded by members of the Kiev Philharmonic Orchestra, Robert Ian Winstin conductor.
release date: November 15, 2006.

maggie and milly and molly and may, Treble Clef Music Press, Chapel Hill, NC.

Performance Experience:

1978 - present	Extensive choral performance, extensive flute solo performance, freelanced throughout the New York metropolitan area
Fall 2009, 2010	Member of Festival Choir of First Congregational Church of Ridgefield.
Apr. - Jun. 2006	Member of symphonic chorus of C4 , a composer/conductor/chorister collective, New York, NY.
Sept. 2003- present	Member of the Fairfield County Chorale , Norwalk, CT.
Jan. 1995 – Aug. 1996	Member of the North Shore Pops Symphonic Band , Long Island, NY
Sept. 1991- May 1996	Soloist and member of the St. Joseph's Chamber Orchestra in Astoria, NY
Sept. 1991 - May 1994	Member of the St. Joseph's Chamber Singers , Astoria, NY
1983 – 1990	Soloist and member of the Festival Orchestra at St. Agnes Cathedral , Rockville Centre, NY
1984-1985	Member of the St. Agnes Cathedral Chorale , Rockville Centre, NY
1984-1985	Member of the Rockville Centre Chorale , Rockville Centre, NY
1983-1985	Member of the Select Chorus, Mannes College of Music Preparatory Division, New York, NY
1983-1985	Member of the Mannes College of Music Prep School Orchestra , New York, NY
1981-1985	Member of the Madrigal Singers of Loyola School , New York, NY

Conducting Experience:

March 2011 Guest conductor of the **Fairfield County Chorale**.

September 2008 Conductor for part of **Ridgefield 300: a Concert Celebration**
I conducted the All-Town Choir singing "A Girl's Garden," and was assistant rehearsal conductor throughout the month preceding the concert.

- Jan 2003- present Founding director of the **Adesso Choral Society**, Ridgefield, CT
The Adesso Choral Society was founded in order to create a forum for contemporary composers. The vocal ensemble performs music from all eras, but places special emphasis on performing concert choral music by contemporary composers, particularly those local to the greater Danbury area.
- Dec. 2003, 04, 06, 07, 08 Assistant conductor for **Fairfield County Chorale Christmas Sings**
- Sep. 1998 – Jun. 2001 Assistant conductor of the **St. Mary’s Church Choir** in Ridgefield, CT
- Aug. 1994 – Jan. 1995 Conductor of the **St. Patrick’s Church Choir** in Glen Cove, NY

Teaching Experience:

- Jan 2007 - present Private lessons in piano and flute at the **Westport Music Center** in Westport, CT
- Jan- Feb. 2001 - 2009 Theory teacher at the **Westport School of Music** in Westport, CT
Theory classes are taught in a six week winter session. Stoop teaches three levels of classes, for which she designs her own curriculum.
- Jan 2007 - 2009 **Ridgefield Continuing Education, Orchestra Revisited**
Stoop conducted a chamber ensemble of adults wishing to revisit or develop skills involved in ensemble playing. Stoop selected the music, which ranged from classical arrangements to her own original compositions and arrangements.
- Jun. - Aug. 2007 **The Enchanted Garden School of the Arts** in Ridgefield, CT
Within the context of a summer camp program for the arts, Stoop designed and taught a course in choral singing for children ages 6 - 12.
- Sept. 2001-2006 Co-director / co-founder of the **Stoop-Ryan Music School** in Ridgefield, CT
 Private lessons in flute, piano, theory and composition.
Together with Suzanne Enser-Ryan, organized twice yearly recitals for the students. Ensemble performances were encouraged, and Stoop directed the students in choral finales for these recitals.
Also twice yearly Ryan and Stoop organized a “festa musicale,” a music party where students were encouraged to meet other young musicians and enjoy musical games and choral singing.
- Mar. - April 2004 **Ridgefield Continuing Education, Bach to Bartok**
Stoop designed this music history class to help students develop the listening tools needed to discern and distinguish music from different eras and styles.
- Feb.- Mar. 2003 **Ridgefield Continuing Education, Introduction to Music Theory**
 Adults were introduced to the fundamentals of music theory, and many students were able to compose and notate a short song by the end of the eight week course.
- Fall 2001, 2002 **After School Enrichment Program** at Scotland Elementary School, Ridgefield, CT, a course in solfeggio.
This course was designed by Stoop to introduce the children to the fundamentals of singing through solfeggio. At the end of the six week course, the children were able to present a short concert to their family and friends, which featured a cappella polyphonic singing.
- 1983 – 2009 Private Flute, Piano and Theory Instructor

Professional Memberships:

Margaret Collins Stoop is a member of the following organizations: American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP), American Choral Directors Association (ACDA), National Association of Composers - USA (NACUSA), Connecticut Composers, Inc. (CCI), International Alliance of Women in Music (IAWM), Society of Composers, Inc. (SCI), Long Island Composers Alliance (LICA), and Christian Fellowship of Art Music Composers (CFAMC).

Stoop served as **Correspondence coordinator** for NACUSA from Sept. 2006 to Oct. 2007 and as **Secretary** for CCI from August 2007 to August 2008.

She is currently **President** of CCI.

Stoop also is a member of the Ridgefield Arts Council, a cabinet of the Ridgefield town government.

Foreign Languages:

Italian and German - proficient reading knowledge

Dutch - fluent

Margaret Collins Stoop answers to the nickname "Meg," and her last name is pronounced "Stope" (rhymes with 'hope!').