



## Men's Choir Conductor

Gary Packwood is the Associate Director of Choral Activities, and Head of Music Education at the University of Montevallo, where he conducts the UM Chamber Singers, University Chorus, and teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in music and music education. He arrived at Montevallo after teaching ten of public school in south Florida.

A native of Baton Rouge, Gary Packwood earned the Bachelor of Music Education degree in voice from Southeastern Louisiana University, the Master of Arts degree in choral conducting from Florida Atlantic University, and the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in choral conducting, music literature, and music education from Louisiana State University, where he was the recipient of the Huel D. Perkins Doctoral Arts Fellowship. A lifetime member of the American Choral Directors Association, he has served in numerous positions at the state and regional levels of ACDA and is currently Editor of *Reprise* and Southern Division ACDA R&S Chair for Ethnic & Multicultural Music Perspectives. He is the Founder and Artistic Director of the Montevallo Chorale and the Director of Music at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Birmingham. He is also a member of Golden Key International Honour Society, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia and Pi Kappa Lambda.

Dr. Packwood's special areas of expertise include: development of efficient rehearsal strategies, program strategies essential to successful non-auditioned & auditioned choirs, and ethnic/multicultural music. He has contributed numerous articles to professional journals on choral development with adolescent singers, choral reviews, and is known nationally as a conductor of choral festivals, all-state choirs, and as a motivational speaker. Having served as conductor, adjudicator, and clinician in 18 states, South America and Europe, his choirs have performed, by invitation, at Notre Dame Cathedral, Chartres Cathedral, La Madeleine Church, Sacra Coeur Church, The American Cemetery at Omaha Beach (Normandy), and for numerous state and regional conventions.

In 2006 he served as guest conductor, lecturer, and led master classes for the *Festival Internacional de Musica da UFPI* in Brazil; the first American choral conductor to be invited. In August of 2007 he traveled to the *Universidade Federal de Uberlândia*, Brazil, where he will lecture, led master classes, and conduct the university's chorals and opera ensembles. Since 2004 he has been the Artist-in-Residence for both the Las Vegas Academy for Visual and Performing Arts and the University of West Florida Department of Music.

Dr. Packwood is the recipient of the 2007-2008 University of Montevallo College of Fine Arts Distinguished Teaching Award.

For more information about Dr. Packwood and the University of Montevallo Department of Music, log on to [www.montevallo.edu/music](http://www.montevallo.edu/music) or call 205-665-6676.