

## James D. Moyer

### Conductor



**JAMES D. MOYER**, a native of Easton, Pennsylvania, is a veteran teacher of 37 years and is in his 25th year as Director of Choral Activities at Pennsbury High School. Mr. Moyer served as the Curriculum Coordinator of Vocal/Choral Music k-12 for the Pennsbury School District from 2002-2023. He oversees the Pennsbury High School Choral Music Department consisting of 6 choirs, nearly 300 students, and a choral staff of four persons. He has been the Producer of the annual school musical since 2010 and is proud to have several former Pennsbury students on a variety of Broadway stages. Moyer is also the Director of Music at the Presbyterian Church of Lawrenceville (NJ) since 2008, and is co-Founder and former Artistic Director of the Pennsbury Community Chorus where he led the chorus for 18 seasons from 2000-2018.

Before moving back to his native Pennsylvania in 1999, Mr. Moyer was Director of Choral Activities at Western Branch High School in Chesapeake, Virginia. He has been active in the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) as R&S chair, State President (Virginia), and has supervised multiple convention responsibilities at both the Divisional and National levels for eight conventions. While in Virginia Moyer organized the first Virginia Summer Conferences and started the Virginia Middle School Honor Choir in conjunction with the VMEA All-State Chorus. He is also a contributor of choral music, book, and recording reviews to *The Choral Journal*.

Choirs under Moyer's direction have performed throughout the United States and across Europe, performing in such venues as the Thomaskirche and Leipzig Gewandhaus in Germany, Smetana Hall in Prague, St. Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey in London, St. Patrick's Cathedral in Ireland, St. Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna, Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, at the 41st Spoleto Festival in Spoleto, Italy (at the direct invitation of Maestro Gian Carlo Menotti), and in the US at Avery Fisher Hall and Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, the Washington National Cathedral, St. Patrick's Cathedral NYC and The White House. Mr. Moyer's choirs have performed at conferences and workshops for the Virginia Music Educators Association, Pennsylvania Music Educators Association, and the American Choral Directors Association. The Pennsbury High School choirs have been listed as one of two high school "model choirs" in the textbook *Creating Excellence in Choirs and Orchestras*, GIA 2021.

Mr. Moyer has authored chapters (*Establishing Aural Standards* and *Touring with Your Choir*) and edited the companion compact-disc for *The School Choral Program* - a widely used reference/textbook published by GIA in 2008. His Pennsbury Chamber Choir is prominently featured in an aural study CD with *The Choral Conductor's Aural Tutor: Training the Ear to Diagnose Vocal Problems*, GIA 2006. Specializing in choral-orchestral works for high school choirs, Moyer's choruses have prepared major choral-orchestral repertoire including works by Handel, Mendelssohn, Bernstein, Jenkins, Hughes, Graun, Orff, Gershwin, Haydn, Faure, Bach, among others. Mr. Moyer is co-author with Dennis Shrock of *A Conductor's Guide to Choral/Orchestral Repertoire*, GIA 2017 which has become widely used in College and University choral literature classes.

Active as a guest conductor, lecturer and clinician, he has conducted choral festivals in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Virginia, Mississippi, North Carolina and was guest conductor of the summer High School Vocal Institute at Westminster Choir College in 2006. In 2014 Mr. Moyer was one of the inaugural inductees into the Westminster Choir College Music Education *Hall of Fame*.

Moyer has studied conducting with Frauke Haasemann, Allen Crowell, Joseph Flummerfelt, Dennis Shrock and James Jordan. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree in voice/organ from Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey and a Master of Music degree in Choral Conducting from The University of Oklahoma.