

Dear Colleagues,

November 2022

On behalf of the National Research and Publications Committee of the American Choral Directors Association, I am pleased to formally announce

the winner of the 2021 Julius Herford Dissertation Prize:

Dr. Katie Elizabeth Gardiner

for

"A Conductor's Guide to the Music of Hildegard von Bingen"

From the abstract:

"The purpose of this paper is to make the music of Hildegard von Bingen more accessible to modern choral conductors and their ensembles... I focus on three types of notation available for the performer... and discuss the benefits and challenges of engaging with each type of notation. Through three sample analyses of selections from Hildegard's "Symphonia," I present one conductor's approach to this music, including selecting... an edition, developing an interpretation... and ideas for teaching, rehearsing, conducting, and performing this repertoire. I also include information on the performance practice of medieval vocal music that may be useful..."

Committee members' comments include:

"The author took a very difficult subject and crafted a dissertation that is both well organized and well written... and that provides insights and practical information;" "An excellent overview of the problems and challenges inherent in performing music of Hildegard von Bingen. From types of original notation, to transcribing scores into modern notation, to interpreting specific manuscripts, to performance practice issues of notation and vocal technique, the author has crafted a thorough study, complete with comprehensive bibliography."

Dr. Gardiner is currently the Interim Director of Choirs at the College of the Holy Cross (Worcester, MA). Previously she has served as Associate Instructor in Choral Conducting at Indiana University, and Choral Director and Lecturer in Music at Skidmore College (Saratoga Springs, NY).

She received her D.M.A. in Choral Conducting from Indiana University, where her dissertation advisors included Dr. Carolann Buff and Dr. Giuliano De Bacco. She holds a DMA in Choral Conducting from Indiana University, an MM in Choral Conducting from the University of Rochester's Eastman School of Music, and MM.Ed and B.MEd degrees from the University of Hartford's Hartt School of Music.

Each year the Julius Herford Prize Subcommittee accepts nominations for the outstanding doctoral terminal research project in choral music. Projects are eligible if they comprise the principal research component of the degree requirements, whether the institution defines the project as a "dissertation," "document," "thesis," or "treatise," etc. Eligibility is limited to doctoral recipients whose degrees were conferred during the calendar year prior to the year of nomination.

The submitted projects are evaluated entirely blind with regard to dissertator, assisting faculty, institution, and any other identifying material, by an unpaid panel of choral conductor-scholars. Dr. Gardiner will receive a \$1,000 cash prize and a commemorative plaque. The prize will be presented at the upcoming National ACDA conference.

On behalf of the Herford Prize Subcommittee, I wish to extend to you my deepest gratitude for your interest in this important initiative of the American Choral Directors Association!

Sincerely,

Magen Solomon, DMA

Chair, Julius Herford Prize Subcommittee

Artistic Director, San Francisco Choral Artists

Artistic Director, San Francisco Bach Choir