

Dr. Gabriela Hristova



Dr. Gabriela Hristova is Associate Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities at the University of Michigan-Flint Department of Music. She conducts the University Chorale and Chamber Singers, and teaches courses in choral and instrumental conducting and music performance. Dr. Hristova is the Artistic director and conducting faculty of the Department of Music's Summer Vocal Academy of Music - a summer day camp for middle and high school students widely-recognized for its high level of vocal music instruction.

Dr. Hristova earned the Master of Music in Conducting and Doctor of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting degrees from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, where she studied under the direction of Dr. Jerry Blackstone and Professor Theodore Morrison. She received the Bachelor's degree in Music Education and Choral Conducting from the State Academy of Music in her native country of Bulgaria. While engaged in graduate work, she conducted the University of Michigan Women's Glee Club for two years, and served as chorus master for the University's opera productions.

Dr. Hristova is a passionate performer, educator, and promoter of choral music throughout the Midwest, conducting choirs of all ages, both professional and amateur.

Under her direction, the University of Michigan-Flint Chamber Singers have performed by invitation at the Pentagon as the special guest choir for the Black History Month Observance honoring of the three living veterans of the Triple Nickel Infantry Battalion from the WWII; She has appeared with them at the Michigan State Conferences of the American Choral Directors Association both in Concert performances and clinics. The Chamber singers are invited to participate in university events of significant importance (Chancellors Inaugurations, Veterans Day Observances, Scholarship dinners, Capital campaigns, and others). Dr. Hristova's choirs are invited to perform at the Flint Festival of Choirs every year.

Prior to her appointment at UM-Flint in 2007, she was Visiting Director of Choral Activities at Oberlin College-Conservatory of Music where she taught advanced conducting seminars and directed the Oberlin College Singers, College Choir, and Musical Union. For several years, Dr. Hristova served as the Director of Music Ministry for the West Side United Methodist Church in Ann Arbor overseeing a vibrant music program, and as an accompanist and of the Flint Festival Chorus.

Dr. Hristova has been the president of the State Board of the American Choral Directors Association, serving and promoting the choral arts in the state of Michigan. In this capacity some of her initiatives include the state First Collegiate Honor Choir, directed by Simon Carrington at the state conference in 2013, followed by the state First Church Honor Choir, in 2014. Most recently she directed the first Michigan Community College Honor Choir at the state conference in Kalamazoo.

Dr. Hristova is often sought as an adjudicator for competitions (Michigan Federation of Music Clubs, Indiana Music Teachers Association, *Simeonis* International Composers

Competition for Choral Songs), vocal auditions, and clinics. She has actively adjudicated for the Michigan School Vocal Music Association offering her choral expertise and experience to the younger generations of singers in the state.

Dr. Hristova is very active as a collaborative pianist in solo recitals and concerts with instrumental and vocal soloists. She has recently appeared as a soloist with the UM-Flint Wind Symphony and has performed recitals with flautist Colton Sayer at the University of Michigan-Flint, Michigan State University, and St. Paul's Episcopal Church Concert Series.

Dr. Hristova is a recipient of the Lucinda Hinsdale Stone Junior Women Faculty Award bestowed by the University of Michigan-Flint in recognition of one's scholarship and creative activities.