



May Festival Director of Chorus

Robert Porco Honored

Robert Porco received *Chorus America's Michael Korn Founders Award for Development of the Professional Choral Art* in June. This lifetime achievement award, named for the first president of *Chorus America*, honors Mr. Porco's nearly four decades of service to the choral field as an educator and conductor. Recognized as one of the leading choral musicians in the United States, Mr. Porco joins the ranks of past Korn Founders Award winners such as Ned Rorem, Alice Parker, Fred Waring, Earl Rivers, and Robert Shaw.

During Mr. Porco's 22 years with the May Festival he has prepared the Chorus for three highly acclaimed appearances in Carnegie Hall. He has gained national recognition for his preparation of the Chorus for such prominent conductors as John Adams, James Conlon, Paavo Järvi, Erich Kunzel, James Levine, and Robert Shaw. He also led the Chorus in its first-ever *a cappella* recording, *Christmas with the Cincinnati May Festival Chorus*, released in 2001.

The May Festival Chorus membership includes 130 volunteer members from the tri-state area who devote countless hours throughout the year to rehearsals and performances, working with and learning from Robert Porco. Chorus members come from all walks of life: teachers, doctors, accountants, attorneys, students, parents, and grandparents. Established in 1873, May Festival produces five different concerts of the best choral repertoire each spring. The Chorus is the anchor for May Festival and during the year serves as the Official Chorus of the Cincinnati Symphony and Pops Orchestras. Auditions for the chorus will be held in the fall.

May Festival

mayfestival.com