

The **MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY CHORALE** is the core mixed-voice choral ensemble of the John J. Cali School of Music in the College of the Arts. Its 150 members comprise music students majoring in performance, music education, music therapy and composition, as well as non-music majors. The somatically based choral pedagogy is designed to enable students to expand and refine their musical, vocal and choral skills, enabling them to function as independent, flexible and responsive choral musicians in their subsequent student and professional lives. Previous highlights with the NJSO include Beethoven's Ninth Symphony under the baton of Maestro Neeme Järvi for the opening of the 2006–07 season and the New York Metropolitan area premiere of Howard Shore's Academy Award-winning *The Lord of the Rings Symphony* with guest conductor John Mauceri. Montclair State is New Jersey's second largest and fastest growing university.

HEATHER J. BUCHANAN is director of Choral Activities at Montclair State University. She conducts the Chorale and University Singers, and she teaches Choral Methods and Body Mapping. She is co-editor and compiler of the distinguished GIA choral series *Teaching Music through Performance in Choir*. A certified Andover educator, Ms. Buchanan specializes in the teaching of body mapping for musicians and is a Ph.D. candidate with the University of New England in Australia. Buchanan previously served on the conducting faculty at Westminster Choir College of Rider University. Born in Brisbane, Australia, Buchanan earned a Master of Music degree with distinction from Westminster. Recent highlights include concerts at Carnegie Hall and Alice Tully Hall for the New York Choral Festival and the Russian Museum in St. Petersburg with the University Singers. Last season, she conducted the world premiere of Tarik O'Regan's MSU choral commission.