Musical Biography of Mary Linda Cox

for

The Mary Linda Cox Festival Fund

By Mary Linda Cox

Mary Linda Cox started going to Festival when she was in third grade, but she had to go to Springfield, IL to be judged. Why? Because there was no festival in the Bloomington-Normal area with no District 6 and no Adult Senior Club to sponsor the Juniors Club(s).

Little did she know that this would be the beginning of a lifelong adventure in learning music. This included teaching piano and voice for over 38 years, guiding her students to Festival, and judging voice and/or piano in Festivals, school, and church events.

After high school graduation, she studied music at Furman University in Greenville, SC, one of the top ten music schools in the nation. She studied piano and voice in Vienna, Austria her Junior Fall Term where she fell in love with vocal performance. During her jury, she was asked to return under a Fulbright Scholarship to continue her vocal studies.

Upon returning from Vienna, she changed her major from Music Education to Vocal Performance. She has a Masters in Church Music and a Masters in Vocal Performance from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Mary Linda served on the Illinois Federation of Music Clubs State Board as the Secretary for three years. She has sung professionally, conducted many choirs, sang the high notes under the star on the Living Christmas Tree, had leads in musical, and worked backstage or in other capacities in theater.

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