

MARY ELLEN JUNDA, Ed.D.

Mary Ellen Junda, Professor of Music at the University of Connecticut, is recognized as an innovative music educator, conductor, scholar and recording artist. She is conductor the UCONN *Women's Choir* and has developed new general education courses and ensembles that focus on teaching about social justice and global cultures through song. As director of *Earthtones*, the world music vocal ensemble, she has created inspiring multimedia performances on the music of Trinidad and Tobago, the Civil Rights Movement, the Vietnam War and the Gullah; the Irish-American experience will be featured this year.

Dr. Junda is co-director with Dr. Robert Stephens for their Landmarks in American History and Culture Program, *Gullah Voices: Traditions and Transformations*, awarded \$580,000 by the National Endowment for the Humanities. *Gullah Voices* has brought teachers from throughout the nation to study Gullah art, music and culture in Savannah, GA, with the proceedings available through the Connecticut Digital Archives at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center. Recent articles on pedagogy are featured in *General Music Today* and the *College Music Symposium* and on the Gullah and African American music with co-author Dr. Stephens in the *International Journal of Critical Cultural Studies* and a chapter in *Songs of Social Protest* (in press). Recent conference presentations include the *College Music Society National Conference; International Symposium for Singing*, Newfoundland, Canada; *Songs of Social Protest*, Limerick, Ireland; and *Protest Songs and Social Justice*, Lisbon, Portugal.

Dr. Junda was awarded the *Howard Foundation Fellowship in Music Performance* from Brown University in recognition of her exemplary choral conducting and has conducted the OAKE National Choir and festival choirs throughout the Northeast. She is founder and past director of *The Main Street Singers* and *Treblemakers Children's Choir*. Her three *Singing with Treblemakers* recordings have received national awards and are recognized globally as a model for children's singing voices.