

# **University of Southern California**

## **Thornton School of Music**

### **Master of Music or Doctor of Musical Arts in Choral Music**

#### **Program Learning Objectives**

##### **Choral Music and Sacred Music (M.M.) or (D.M.A.)**

The graduate degrees in Choral Music and Sacred Music will train musicians to the highest standards of the field of music and in the performance and literature of choral music. Upon completion will:

- a. have the knowledge and technical skill to conduct and organize choral ensembles;
- b. have the ability to sing at a professional level in small and large choral ensembles;
- c. have an understanding of vocal production, diction and style as it relates to choral singing;
- d. have the ability to take aural dictation of music and to analyze musical harmony and structure;
- e. demonstrate an understanding of the choral repertory;
- f. be able to work as a leader and in collaboration in areas of musical interpretation and performance;
- g. have an understanding of the societal impact of music and the ethical responsibility of a professional musician;
- h. have the ability to engage in life-long learning;
- i. have the practical, technical and historical knowledge to communicate their values and understanding of music to the world at large.

##### **Doctor of Musical Arts**

This degree represents the highest level of expertise in a major field of musical practice and competence in several additional areas. Students choose an academic field from among Musicology, Theory and Analysis, Music Teaching and Learning, Choral Music or Sacred Music in addition to two elective fields to complement their major field. In addition to the objectives above, graduates will also:

- a. gain the pedagogical tools to teach at the collegiate level in their chosen specialty;
- b. gain cross-disciplinary knowledge to teach introductory collegiate courses in their academic field;
- c. demonstrate achievement of extraordinary professional competence in their chosen specialty, and develop a unique artistic/intellectual voice;

- d. develop a comprehensive knowledge of and ability to communicate about the broader music field through the lens of their chosen specialty.