

Rhonda Hambright, soprano, is known regionally as a soprano soloist, pianist, voice teacher and choral conductor. Growing up in Stone Mountain, Georgia, she was exposed to great music in the Atlanta area. She began piano lessons at the age of 5 and studied throughout college, having earned a scholarship both in piano and voice. She is a cum laude graduate of Wesleyan College with a degree in voice performance and was a student of Carol Thurman and Norman McLean. While there, her piano teacher was Linda Lane and organ professor was Irene Feddern. Post graduate, she has had the opportunity to coach with professors Fabio Vettraino, Miroslav Kroupa and Caroline Thomas at the Hochschule für Musik in Detmold, Germany. Currently, she is the Director of Music at St. Simons Presbyterian Church, runs an award-winning studio of voice students, and is Artistic Director of the Island Concert Association. She was the founding conductor of the Coastal Symphony of Georgia Chorale, having prepared the group for many major works. She also founded the Golden Isles Children's Chorus that sang with the American Boychoir several years ago. Oratorios and major works performed as soprano soloist include Handel's *Messiah* and *Dettingen Te Deum*; Mozart's *Vesperae solennes de Confessore, Requiem, and Exultate, Jubilate*; Haydn's *Creation*; Beethoven's *Mass in C*; Rutter *Requiem* and *Gloria*; Durufle *Requiem*; and Faure *Requiem*. In addition to the music direction of many musicals, her musical theatre leading roles include: Golde, *Fiddler on the Roof*; Fanny Brice, *Funny Girl*; Anna, *The King and I*; and Marion, *The Music Man*. She is a regular singer of the Star-Spangled Banner on St. Simons Island for special occasions and has sung for past governors, U.S. Senators, former first lady Barbara Bush and former President and Mrs. Jimmy Carter. Her vocal performance background is extensive and includes concerts with the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra during the lockout to raise money for players, with the Coastal Symphony of Georgia, for local concert series, for the Jekyll Island Club Sunday Supper series, at the Cloister Hotel on Sea Island, at the University of Tampa, Montreat Conference Center, Macon Civic Chorale, Atlanta (Pro-Mozart Society), Music for Missions at Lawrenceville Road UMC and various locales throughout the Southeast. In Munster, Germany she presented a concert of American spirituals and German lied on Martin Luther King weekend in 2014. Collaboration has begun on a CD with Broadway music director Jeff Saver and recording engineer, Matt Still. She is married to Harlan, architectural photographer, graphic artist, writer, and musician. Together they have three grown sons, Hank, Joe and Ben.