



BIO (2021)

ROLAND MARVIN CARTER, is Professor Emeritus of American Music at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (UTC). He was Director of Choirs at his undergraduate, *alma mater*, Hampton University for nearly three decades. Both appointments included stents as head and chair of the Department of Music respectively.

Carter's accomplishments as a leading figure in the choral arts include lectures, workshops, master classes, and concerts with major choruses and orchestras in prestigious venues nationwide. He is especially noted as an authority on the performance and preservation of music of African American traditions and

composers. He is, perhaps, best known for his festival setting of *LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING* and his spiritual arrangements *YOU MUST HAVE THAT TRUE RELIGION* and *IN BRIGHT MANSIONS ABOVE*. He has received numerous commissions from organizations and individuals including most recently Len Hale, the Chattanooga Symphony, Duke University, and the BESA SAKA FESTIVAL

For 24 years, Carter was music director of the acclaimed Chattanooga Choral Society for the Preservation of African American Song and served twenty seasons as music advisor and principal guest conductor for the Houston Ebony Opera (TX) Gala Concerts. He has been active with the Hampton University Ministers Conference for over five (5) decades, having moved through the ranks of student accompanist to assistant director to Director of Music. Since 2011, the Choir Directors – Organists Guild of the of the Conference has honored him with the presentation, annually, of **The Roland M. Carter Living Legends Award**

A past president of the National Association of Negro Musicians, Carter has a distinguished service record having held seats on the on the boards of directors of the League of American Orchestras, SPHINX, TN ARTS COMMISSION, National Association of State Arts Agencies, ArtsBuild of Chattanooga, and CHORUS AMERICA. He is founder and CEO of Mar-Vel, Inc., a music publisher specializing in the music of African American composers and traditions; and is Founder and Executive Director of The Roland Carter Institute for Studies in American Music. Since 2003, Carter has conducted the Chancel Choir at the Cascade United Methodist Church, Atlanta, GA.