

Judy Hanson

Director of Choral Programs, Chicago Children's Choir

Founded in 1956, the Chicago Children's Choir is a multiracial, multicultural choral music education organization, shaping the future by making a difference in the lives of children and youth through musical excellence.

Judy Hanson holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education from the University of Illinois and a Master of Music degree in Music Education from Northwestern University. She is Director of Choral Programs for Chicago Children's Choir, a multiracial, multicultural choral music education organization shaping the future by making a difference in the lives of children and youth through musical excellence. Currently serving 2,800 young people, this organization is the largest choral music education program in the country. As Director of Choral Programs, Judy Hanson directs training and curriculum guidance for the conductors of the In-School and after-school Neighborhood Choir Programs. She is the Conductor of DiMension, a choir for young men with changing voices. She is also the Associate Director and Choreographer for the world-renowned Concert Choir as well as Conductor and Choreographer for the Show Choir. She received a 2006 Jeff Award nomination (Choral Choreography) for Chicago Children's Choir's original world musical, *Sita Ram*.

A nationally known clinician, adjudicator and conductor, Ms. Hanson has presented sessions and workshops at ACDA chapters in Illinois, Iowa, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and at many universities. She has judged national show choir competitions and conducted choirs at Illinois Summer Youth Music at the University of Illinois, Show Choir Camps of America, IMEA High School District Festivals and Junior High/Middle School Honor Choirs for the ACDA in Illinois, Wisconsin, West Virginia and Pennsylvania. In February 2000, she served as the Junior High/Middle School Honor Choir conductor at the ACDA Eastern Division Convention in Baltimore, MD. In February 2008, she conducted the New Jersey High School Women's Honor Choir. She has also served as the Junior High/Middle School Repertoire and Standards Chair for Illinois ACDA. In 1993, Ms. Hanson received the Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching, an award given to ten outstanding Chicago area teachers each year.

From 1985 through May 2001, Ms. Hanson was the Director of Vocal Music at Eisenhower Junior High School in Darien, IL. There, she conducted six choirs. Eisenhower choirs performed at the 1996 Illinois ACDA Fall Convention, Walt Disney World and on three separate occasions in the Chicago production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, starring Donny Osmond. From 1987 through 1993, Ms. Hanson was one of the directors of Young Naperville Singers Children's Chorus.