



GIA Publications, Inc.

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– Press Release –

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For immediate release

Margaret Hillis Biography a Midwest Book Award Finalist

GIA is proud to announce that *Margaret Hillis: Unsung Pioneer* by Cheryl Frazes Hill has been named as a finalist for a Midwest Book Award in the category of Nonfiction–Biography. This honor is a first for a GIA-published book and author.

In *Margaret Hillis: Unsung Pioneer*, the author—a longtime colleague and associate—examines how Hillis, was able to overcome the many challenges she faced, navigating a career in ways relatable not only to musicians but also to women in all professions. Margaret Hillis blazed a trail upon which many continue to tread as the first woman to regularly conduct a major symphony orchestra, founder and director of the Chicago Symphony Chorus and winner of nine Grammy Awards. Margaret Hillis’s story is one of resilience, determination, and passion for music. Her journey is an inspiration, a portrait of what it takes to succeed at the highest level in any field.

Cheryl Frazes Hill is the associate director of the Chicago Symphony Chorus. Frazes Hill began with the Chorus as a singer in 1976 and was then appointed to the conducting staff by Margaret Hillis in 1987. Frazes Hill also serves as chorus director of the Milwaukee Symphony Chorus, a role she began in 2017. In addition, Frazes Hill is a professor emeritus, having served for twenty years as director of choral activities for Roosevelt University’s Chicago College of Performing Arts beginning in 2002.

The Midwest Book Awards are sponsored by the Midwest Independent Publishers Association (MiPA), a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting independent publishers in twelve Midwest states. MiPA is also a regional affiliate of the Independent Book Publishers Association (IBPA). Gold winners will be announced in person at the 33rd Annual Midwest Book Awards on June 17, 2023 in Minneapolis.

Founded in 1941, GIA Publications, Inc. is a family-owned company with more than 10,000 choral and instrumental editions in print, as well as hymnals, recordings, a licensing division, and a wide variety of music education resources. The esteemed choral publisher Walton Music became part of GIA in 2013. Both World Library Publications (WLP) and Meredith Music joined the GIA family in 2020. Our website is www.giamusic.com.

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