



Burlington, Vermont's lively band of singers

**Social Band's
Vermont Composers Project**

Social Band, Burlington's lively band of singers, has received generous grant funding from the Vermont Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Argosy Foundation Contemporary Music Fund, and the Vermont Community Foundation to launch the Vermont Composers Project. A stylistically diverse group of Vermont composers have been invited to write new works for us to perform throughout Vermont and beyond from late Spring 2005 through Fall 2005. Our goals with this project are to:

SUPPORT choral composers in the creation of new works;

ENCOURAGE composers who have never written for chorus to do so;

PERFORM new, quality choral works for audiences around the state;

LEAD composing and community singing workshops throughout the state;

RECORD the new works and produce the Vermont Composers Project CD;

INSPIRE composers, audience members, and workshop attendees to create new songs.

We see this as our contribution to the revival of community-based choral composing, such as flourished in New England's "singing school" tradition in the late 18th century. Of the composers invited, some are young, some gray-haired; some very experienced, others just getting started; some are "folky," others "arty." All are fine musicians with good ideas, and capable of writing well for chorus. They include:

Mary Alice Amidon (Brattleboro)
Peter Amidon (Brattleboro)
Rachel Bissex (Burlington)
Patti Casey (Montpelier)
Tom Cleary (Burlington)
Susan Comen (Middlesex)
Sara Doncaster (Irasburg)
William Drislane (Burlington)

Jon Gailmor (Lake Elmore)
David Gunn (Barre)
John Harrison (Plainfield)
Michael Hopkins (Burlington)
Seth Houston (Dummerston)
Bob Keller (Burlington)
Jorge Martin (Middlebury)
Anna Patton (Dummerston)

Troy Peters (Burlington)
Thomas Read (Burlington)
Robert Resnik (Burlington)
Katie Shimizu (Marshfield)
Moiria Smiley (orig. New Haven)
Stephen Spitzer (Brattleboro)
Pete Sutherland (Monkton)
Elizabeth Thompson (Burlington)

Concerts will include appearances by one or more of our composers when possible. A composing and community singing workshop will also be available in conjunction with our concerts. This session will offer the public some insight into the creative process of the featured composer(s), and help us reach our goals of inspiring new compositions and sharing the new works.

Social Band is a Vermont Arts Council Juried Artist.