



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 create and present Social Band's Vermont Composers Project. A stylistically diverse group of Vermont composers have written new works for us to perform throughout Vermont and beyond from April 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." They include:

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

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

Troy Peters (Burlington)
Thomas L. Read (Burlington)
Robert Resnik (Burlington)
Katie Shimizu (Marshfield)
Moirra Smiley (orig. New Haven)
Stephen Spitzer (Brattleboro)
Pete Sutherland (Monkton)
Liz 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 participants 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.