Robert Page, Paul Mellon University Professor of Music and Director of Choral Studies, will retire at the end of this academic year from the Carnegie Mellon School of Music. Maestro Page first joined Carnegie Mellon as head of the School of Music in 1975, and since then has had an important and lasting impact on multiple generations of students.

Called the “Dean of American Choral Conductors,” Maestro Page’s distinguished career has been marked by accolades that include two Grammy Awards, the Prix Mondial de Monteux, the Grand Prix du Disque, and Pennsylvania’s “Artist of the Year” award. The American Record Review called Maestro Page “a national treasure” in recognition of his distinguished catalog of over 44 recordings with choirs and orchestras.

Page prepared choruses for Eugene Ormandy and the Philadelphia Orchestra (1956-1975), was Assistant Conductor and Director of Choruses of the Cleveland Orchestra (1971-1986), Music Director/Conductor of the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh (1979-2006), and Director of Choral Activities and Special Projects for Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. Page has conducted performances in most of the countries of Western Europe including the Dvorák Festival (Czech Republic), Mikilli Festival (Finland), White Nights Festival (St. Petersburg) and the Toulouse Festival (France).

Throughout his long career Maestro Page forged relationships with important living composers, and has premiered many notable works, including compositions by Samuel Barber, Ned Rorem, and Alberto Ginastera. Page was personally selected by composer Krysztof Penderecki to prepare the choruses of the Chicago Lyric Opera and La Scala for the world premiere of Penderecki’s opera Paradise Lost. Maestro Page also conducted the first performances of Penderecki’s Passion according to St. Luke in Cleveland and Philadelphia.

Denis Galwell, head of the School of Music, remarked, “Maestro Page’s contributions to the School of Music and to the community are remarkable and too numerous to list. We are deeply grateful to this fabulous musician and pedagogue for his service, teaching, and leadership.”

Friends of the School of Music can insure his legacy by making a gift to the Robert Page Fellowship Fund, online at https://music.cmu.edu/pages/ways-to-give. Please join us in congratulating Robert Page on his impending retirement and help us thank him for his impact on countless music students at Carnegie Mellon University.

Robert Page conducting Cleveland Orchestra
Photo: The Cleveland Orchestra Archives

Photo: Carnegie Mellon University Archives

Robert Page conducting the Carnegie Mellon Concert Choir and Repertory Chorus at CAPA High School, February 16, 2013.
Photo: Erica Dilcer

Andrew Clark (MM'01), Christine Hubwood (MM'95), Robert Page, Dan Teven, Thomas Douglas (MM'96)
Ming Luke (MM'02), Jeffrey Tedford (MM'03)
Taken September 28, 2001
in Alumni Concert Hall at a reception in honor of Dr. Page being named the Paul Mellon University Professor of Music.
Photo: Carnegie Mellon University Archives

Robert Page with wife Glynn, President Jared Cohon, and Martin Prekop (then Dean of CFA).
Taken September 28, 2001
in Alumni Concert Hall at a reception in honor of Dr. Page being named the Paul Mellon University Professor of Music.
Photo: Carnegie Mellon University Archives

Photo: Carnegie Mellon University Archives

Watch: