



Dr. Roger Satrang Hoel is the Artistic Director, Principal Conductor and Founder of the Music Association of Minnetonka. He also served as Music Director and Principal Conductor of the Apollo Male Chorus for 25 years. Under his direction, Dr. Hoel's ensembles have performed at festivals and competitions in Scotland, England, Wales, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Italy, France, Austria, Greece, British Columbia, Newfoundland, Czechoslovakia, Hawaii, the Gewandhaus in Leipzig, Germany, St. Peter's Basilica in Rome and New York's Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall.

Dr. Hoel studied choral conducting with Dr. Olaf Christiansen and Dr. Kenneth Jennings of the St. Olaf Choir; Dr. Paul Ensrude and Dr. Gerhard Track of the Vienna Boys' Choir; Robert Shaw and Helmuth Rilling. He studied orchestra conducting with Leopold Sipe of the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, George Trautwine of the Minnesota Orchestra, David Zinman of the Buffalo Symphony Orchestra, Leonard Bernstein of the New York Philharmonic, Leonardo Resansky of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra and Antal Dorati of the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra. Additional studies were with Dr. Frank Bencriscutto and Dr. Gale Sperry of the University of Minnesota, Miles Johnson of St. Olaf College, Dr. Frederick Fennell of the Eastman School of Music.

Instrumental studies were with Adolf Sherbaum of The Orchestre de Chambre of Paris and Saarbrücken Radio Chamber Orchestra of Stuttgart, Bernard Adelstein of the Cleveland Symphony Orchestra, Christopher Luba of the Chicago Symphony, Robert Nagel of the Yale School of Music and John Swallow of the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo.

Dr. Hoel has played trumpet with the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, the Minneapolis Symphony (now called the Minnesota Orchestra), the New York Brass Quintet and the New York Philharmonic Orchestra. Additionally, he has been a soloist and conductor for a number of civic and professional symphony orchestras.

In 1974, Dr. Hoel approached the City of Minnetonka, recommending collaboration in the formation of a new organization that would provide opportunities for community musicians to learn and perform great music. The first musical ensemble created was the Minnetonka Symphony Orchestra. Over the course of the next several years, nine more performing groups were created, including two more orchestras, a concert band, plus six choirs – three for youth and three for adults. During its 2013-14 season, the Music Association of Minnetonka celebrated its 40th anniversary season, and its continuing collaboration with the City of Minnetonka.