

**Baritone BENJAMIN ALLEN** (*Senior Lecturer in Voice Carleton College*) received the B.M.Ed. from Wartburg College. He has studied with C. Robert Larson, Donna Pegors, Lawrence Weller, and, in New York, with Bernard Taylor. He has performed as a soloist with numerous regional and national organizations including the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, the Minnesota Orchestra, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, the Duluth-Superior Symphony Orchestra, and the Minnesota Opera. He has taught at the University of Minnesota-Duluth, Bethel University, Macalester College and the Minnesota Center for Arts Education. Ben is currently on the voice faculty and coordinator of the voice department at The International Music Camp. His interest in understanding the "cultural voice" to better serve the needs of international students who don't have experience with Western Vocal concepts, led him to become involved with the East African community in Minneapolis where he sang in the Minnesota Swahili Choir. In several trips to Africa, Ben collected and transcribed original African choral music and several of his transcriptions of the works of Tanzanian composer, Israel Kagaruki have been published by Hal Leonard Publishing. Ben is a past Board Chair for a non-profit agency, Compassionate Solutions for African Development (COSAD) which undertakes economic development using the African choir as the target community within which to develop sustainable enterprise projects.

