

Department of Choral Activities Graduate Assistantship Duties

Graduate assistants in the Department of Choral Activities earn their financial aid in the following ways:

- 1. As teaching assistants in undergraduate conducting classes:** Participating in two one-hour classes per week, which are taught by graduate faculty and teaching a one-hour laboratory class. The labs serve to clarify and reinforce the methods taught in class. Coaching the undergraduate student also serves to strengthen the teaching assistant's own pedagogy techniques.
- 2. As assistants to the directors of the four major choral ensembles:** Duties include conducting choral warm-up sessions and sectional rehearsals, individual coaching with singers, and conducting one or more selections for the ensemble's major concert(s). Some assistants also serve as accompanists for the ensembles. Graduate assistants also help with the logistics of performances, including music distribution and collection, seating charts and research for program notes.
- 3. As research assistants for graduate conducting and literature seminars:** Duties include research for the graduate faculty on composers and repertoire being studied in class. This research is in addition to that required for the completion of their class assignments.
- 4. As off campus performance (leaders):** Graduate assistants are often given "leadership" roles during touring and other off-campus performances.