



  
**MORAVIAN  
MUSIC FESTIVAL**  
JULY 26-30, 2022 \* BETHLEHEM, PA

## Conversation / Music

### **The Rollins College Connection**

Thursday, July 28, 2022 at 2:00pm  
Central Moravian Church, Bethlehem, PA

#### *Program*

John V. Sinclair, Nola Reed Knouse, students and friends

The fruitful partnership between the Department of Music at Rollins College, the Bach Festival Society of Winter Park, Florida, and the Moravian Music Foundation began back in 1992, with a phone call from John V. Sinclair to the Moravian Music Foundation. Since that time several dozen students and former students from Rollins College have attended Moravian Music Festivals; many have undertaken research and editing projects with MMF; and several have made use of MMF resources for graduate study and degree projects. John, Nola, and some current and former Rollins students and faculty will explore this partnership in conversation and music.

### *Rollins College and the Moravian Music Foundation: A Fruitful Partnership Continues*

The partnership between Rollins College and the Moravian Music Foundation had its initial beginnings in John Sinclair's curiosity, in the summer of 1992. As he explored the music library at the First Congregational Church of Winter Park, he discovered some of the old Moravian publications – *It Is a Precious Thing*; *Go, Congregation Go*; *O the Blessedness Is Great*, and so on. He wondered if there could be more of this lovely music, and looked up the Moravian Music Foundation, and phoned.

I had been working at the Music Foundation for just a few weeks then, but was delighted to inform him that yes, there was plenty more Moravian music! He visited that summer, and immediately planned a concert of Moravian music at the Winter Park Bach Festival in February of 1993, and began editing Moravian music himself.

John and I corresponded and worked on editions together; I traveled to Winter Park, and he traveled to Winston-Salem. In the summer of 1998, following the untimely death of David Lewis Crosby, we needed a conductor for the 1999 Moravian Music Festival at Millersville, Pennsylvania, and with the approval of the Interprovincial Music Festival Committee, I phoned John to ask if he would be available and interested. He accepted right away. By the conclusion of the 1999 Festival, the Interprovincial Music Festival Committee had met and agreed to invite him to conduct the 2003 Festival in Winston-Salem. Following that Festival, the Interprovincial Music Festival Committee recommended to the Provincial Elders' Conferences that John Sinclair be appointed Continuing Conductor of Moravian Music Festivals.

In planning for the 2003 Festival, John suggested bringing a few of his students along. Five attended that year, and stayed a few days after the Festival to begin editing Moravian music for themselves; their editions were presented in a lovefeast at the First Congregational Church in November of 2003. John brought more students in 2006, 2009, 2013, 2017, and in several years their editions were presented in worship in the fall of their Festival year.

Since attending the Festival, John's students have embarked on varied careers. Many have gone on to earn graduate degrees in music; others have made careers as performers, librarians, archivists, stockbrokers, teachers, arrangers ... but, you can be certain that none was left unchanged by their Moravian Music Festival experience!

This year is John's seventh Moravian Music Festival, and he brings with him 11 current students plus two "repeaters" who were at the 2013 Festival; these names are in *italics* in the list of registrants below. Funding for their participation has been provided by The Rollins College Department of Music Friends of Music Fund and the John M. Tiedtke Endowed Chair Fund. We rejoice in the continuation of this fruitful partnership, and welcome these young musicians among us!