

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION *of* TEACHERS *of* SINGING



HERALD STARK

THE HERALD STARK ENDOWMENT

PROVIDES FUNDING FOR THE NATS ARTIST AWARDS

In October 2007 the NATS South Texas Chapter voted to honor Herald I. Stark by establishing a NATS Foundation Fund in his name with an initial contribution of \$2000.

"Prof", as he was affectionately addressed by his students, taught music in the public schools for two years before joining the School of Music at the University of Iowa in 1934. At UI, in addition to enjoying a long successful career teaching voice, he served as *Director of Choral Activities* (1935-61), *Director of the Opera Theater* (1961-76), and *Musical Director of the Summer Arts Festivals*. He held the *Fisher Chair of Opera* from 1972-76. After retiring from UI in 1976, Stark moved to San Antonio where he was asked to head the voice area at the University of Texas at San Antonio. After retiring a second time in 1983, he taught privately in his home. His last lesson was conducted by telephone two days before he died.

At least eighty voice of Professor Stark's students went on to hold college teaching positions. His students have sung in major opera houses throughout Europe and the United States, including the Metropolitan Opera, the New York City Opera, Berlin Deutsche Oper and the Zurich Opera. Four former students, Margarita Roberti, Louise Russell, Julie Kaufman, and Costanza Cuccaro have enjoyed international singing careers. Cuccaro was winner of the 1967 Metropolitan Opera Auditions and member of the Zurich Opera Company and the Deutsche Oper Berlin for several years. She made her Metropolitan Opera debut in 1975 and was subsequently Chancellor's Professor in Music at Indiana University School of Music.

Professor Stark's voice teachers included Louis H. Diercks, Kearney State Teachers College; Franz Proschowski, guest teacher at KSTC and in Chicago; William S. Brady, New York; oratorio coach, Charles Baker, New York; Dr. Thompson Stone, Conductor of the Handel/Haydn Choral Society, Boston.

Professor Stark was a NATS charter member in 1945. His other professional affiliations include the American Academy of Teachers of Singing, NATS Foundation (board member), Central Opera Service, now OPERA America, Music Educators National Conference, Iowa Music Educators Association.

Prof would be happy to know that his work continues in perpetuity through the Herald Stark Endowment supporting the endeavors he was so proud of.

GIVING to NATS

To contribute to this fund, visit the "[Give](#)" tab on NATS.org. When making your donation online, designate "The Herald Stark Endowment" in the notes section of your gift. You also may contact the NATS Executive Office at (904) 992-9101 for assistance.

