



Joanne May is retired Assistant Professor of Music Education and Director of Orchestras at Elmhurst University. While at Elmhurst she founded the annual Elmhurst University World Music Festival, assisted in writing the course *String Improvisation for Educators*, helped to hire four new string faculty members to the department, and sat on several committees including the writing of the Music Performance degree curriculum for the University. She conducted the Elmhurst University Philharmonic for performances at the Illinois Music Education Conference and in Chicago's Millennium Park

for the Chicago World Music Festival, and she developed and toured with the orchestra for annual performances in several states. Prior to teaching at Elmhurst University, May taught for 33 years in public schools teaching string classes, orchestras, bands, and general music.

A student of Paul Rolland for three years as an undergraduate student at the University of Illinois, May has incorporated Rolland pedagogy, that promotes whole-body action and an understanding of how to relieve pain and injury in string playing, into all areas of her teaching. She has presented on Rolland pedagogy at several national and international conferences and is currently a member of the Rolland Certification Planning Committee and Treasurer of the Paul Rolland String Pedagogy Society. For two years she was co-director of the annual University of Illinois Paul Rolland String Pedagogy Workshop and has written curriculum for and taught Rolland Presenter and Mentor Training courses. May received various awards for teaching, including the *Mary Hoffman Award for Teaching Excellence* by Illinois Music Educators Association, *Educator of the Year* and *Distinguished Service Award* from the Illinois American String Teacher's Association, and *Teacher Recognition Award* for the Presidential Scholar Program in Washington, D.C. by the U.S. Department of Education. She is past national Orchestra Council Chair of the National Association for Music Education, and presents regularly at state, national, and international conferences. In 2022 she taught week-long workshops in England and Spain, and at the University of Illinois, VanderCook College of Music, and online through the Rolland Pedagogy Society. In April, 2023 she will be presenting at the European String Teachers Association International Conference in Cardiff, Wales.

May is author of the book *Music for Homeschoolers*, editor of *String Teacher's Cookbook, Creative Recipes for a Successful Program*, and author of her recently released book, *Skills, Scales, and Tunes, Developing String Technique with Paul Rolland Pedagogy*.