

Ron Councill



is the Associate Conductor and accompanist for the San Diego Festival Chorus. Though he has studied piano with Mary Barranger, principal pianist for the San Diego Symphony, Ron learned most of what he knows about music from his first piano teacher, Claire Haggerty. This is the woman responsible for his great posture at the piano. A ruler to the small of the back has a way of doing that to a young boy.

A world traveled musician, his experience and training comes from years of practical application in many genres of music. His studies have lead Mr. Councill to an understanding and appreciation for gospel, jazz, classical, but most of all musical theatre, where his heart truly is.

Mr. Councill, an accomplished Musical Director and accompanist, performs at many of the theatres in San Diego, which include the Lyceum (*Reunion, Always...Patsy Cline*), The Old Globe (*Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, Chita Rivera: The Dancer's Life, The Grinch*), The La Jolla Playhouse (*Dracula, Zhivago*), and the Civic Theatre (*The Full Monty, The Producers*). He also works in children's theatre and has directed and conducted numerous productions for San Diego Junior Theatre (*Sound of Music, 42nd Street, Cinderella*), Peter Pan Junior Theatre (*Annie, Guys and Dolls, My Fair Lady*), the San Diego Opera Education and Outreach Program (*Rip Van Winkle*), and Muirlands Middle School (*Working, Once Upon a Mattress, Pippin*).

In addition, Mr. Councill is the Musical Director and arranger of the internationally acclaimed celtic-rock dance show, *CelticFusion* which has toured in the United States, South America, Australia, and Scotland. He enjoyed spending six weeks in Glasgow performing at the Celtic Connections Festival and recording the *CelticFusion* soundtrack with the original cast. He has also worked with renowned New Thought Christian artist Blair Tabor, helping him to produce and record a CD of his original music entitled *God is Real*.

Currently, Mr. Councill is the Music Director for Christ Church Unity of San Diego where he shares choir conducting with Mr. Mostardo. He also works for the Grossmont College Theatre Department with Lisa Drummond. Lastly, Ron teaches private voice lessons where he has a unique aptitude of bringing out and instilling a sense of confidence in his students. In doing so, he allows others to feel safe and in return, they are willing work to meet his standards. These are hallmarks of an extraordinary teacher.