Memorial Resolution of the Faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Madison
On the Death of Professor Emeritus Anthony Barresi

Anthony “Tony” Barresi, Professor of Choral Music Education in the School of Music from 1978-2000, died on Friday, December 22, 2017 in Madison, Wisconsin at the age of 83.

Born on July 11, 1934 in Silver Creek, NY, Professor Barresi earned his undergraduate degree in music education with a performance area in voice from the State University College at Fredonia (NY). He then entered the graduate program at the University of Michigan, graduating in 1958 with a Master of Music degree in music history and voice. Following graduation he returned to western New York and taught choral and general music in the Brocton Central School and East Aurora Middle and High School. In 1964 Tony was invited to join the faculty at Fredonia State College as an Assistant Professor of voice and conducting. While at Fredonia, he began his doctoral studies in music and education at the University of Michigan, attaining a PhD degree in 1973. That same year he accepted a position as Director of Choral Music at the Oswego, NY High School, a position he held until joining the UW-Madison faculty in 1978. In addition to his regular teaching duties, Professor Barresi served as the Chair of the Music Education program for seven years, conducted the University Choir, and was the Associate Director of the School of Music for two years prior to his retirement in 2000.

Throughout his 41-year career in public schools and universities, Professor Barresi was active as an author-researcher, publishing several books and numerous research articles in professional journals, presenting at conferences internationally, serving as guest lecturer at various colleges and universities, and co-chairing the executive council of the foremost music education research organization in the country.

Dr. Barresi was particularly renowned for his expertise in public policy in the arts, and in the development and health of the adolescent changing voice. He co-authored The Arts at a New Frontier, a seminal history of the first 10 years of the National Endowment for the Arts that was foundational for subsequent arts education policy research. In addition to his many articles, conference presentations, and university guest lectures on the youth changing voice, his educational video, Barresi on Adolescent Voice, has been and remains a valuable tool used by music educators internationally.

Dr. Barresi was also a respected choral conductor. In addition to directing the University Choir at UW-Madison and choral programs in public schools and universities prior to his position here, his work as guest conductor and clinician at community colleges, secondary schools, choral festivals, and honors choirs across the United States and Canada was remarkably extensive and spanned his career.

A strong advocate of studying abroad, Professor Barresi directed and taught in the academic year program in Florence, Italy, sponsored by the Universities of Wisconsin, Michigan and Duke for many years, and founded and directed the University of Michigan summer Florence music and art program from 1998-2004.

In addition to directing undergraduate, masters, and PhD students throughout his career at UW-Madison, he mentored countless in-service music educators across the state and country, and served as a model educator-artist-scholar.
Tony is survived by his beloved wife Virginia, his daughter Regina (Tom) Barresi-Spalla, and his granddaughter Alessandra. He was a vital, enthusiastic and contributing member of the School of Music faculty for 22 years. The memory of his kindness, good humor and positive personality will be cherished by all who knew him.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE
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