

TEACHING

Ellen Robinson

toward mastery of nearly any genre of song.

Ellen has been teaching singers and directing vocal groups for over 35 years and is a member of **NATS** (National Association of Teachers of Singing). She is currently the Director of the Anything Goes Choruses in San Francisco (Community Music Center) and Oakland (First Congregational Church). These are community choruses she founded in 1980. In addition, Ellen teaches jazz singing and chart writing classes at the **Jazzschool** in Berkeley, conducts musical theater workshops for seniors at **Stagebridge** in Oakland, and teaches a beginning singing class for women called **Swinghift Singers**. She has been a vocal instructor on the faculty of **U.C. Berkeley Extension** and a choral conductor with the **Oakland Youth Chorus**.

Ellen's tireless efforts as an educator and cultural activist were recognized in 2011 with a prestigious **Jefferson Award**. She doesn't see much separation between her work in the classroom or on stage. *"As a teacher I feel like I'm a performer, and as a performer I feel like a teacher. I want people to be entertained and I want them to feel different after they've heard my music."*

Ellen's teaching is enriched by a firm foundation of education and training: she earned a Bachelor of Music degree focusing on piano and voice from Ithaca College, Ithaca, New York, and studied Music Education on the graduate level at several universities in New York: C.W. Post, Hofstra University, Bank Street College of Education, and SUNY-Stony Brook. She has studied with the legendary **Mark Murphy**, jazz vocalist **Madeline Eastman**, scat singer extraordinaire **Kitty Margolis**, and cabaret performer **Faith Winthrop**.

One of the San Francisco Bay Areas busiest music directors, jazz singer Ellen Robinson has helped take many a vocalist from the level of simply wanting to sing to the stage. She has worked with literally thousands of students throughout her life and continues to be a gifted and dedicated vocal coach. She is notable for arranging and guiding vocalists