



**Helmi Strahl Harrington, Ph.D.**

My vision of responsible human life includes commitment to idealistic goals that affect the intellectual climate of our people through education in the musical arts, cultural heritages, and spiritual nobility.

***A World of Accordions Museum*** seeks to serve the general public by providing insight into the musical artistry, physical beauty, complexity, and cultural significance of accordion-family-instruments and artifacts displayed in a noble setting. Its mission statement embraces the following goals: 1) preservation and restoration of instruments in the collection; 2) scholarly research in accordion history, organology, and classification; 3) presentation of world cultures through artifacts, figurines, and art works associated with accordions; 4) concerts that bring the instruments to life; 5) library housing of sound/video recordings, published and manuscript music, books, literature, artists estates, and pertinent documents; 6) research into technology, acoustics, and physical sciences. The Museum provides a complete perspective that is accurate in scholarship, understandable in presentation, interesting and relevant to modern life. ***A World of Accordions Traveling Museum*** brings displays to conventions and festivals.

Harrington has researched and compiled the holdings of the Museum, affiliated with the *American Accordionists' Association* since 1999. She has been recognized through regional awards and by the prestigious *Confederation des Accordeonistes Internationale* (2006). She is author of accordion-related articles for *Groves New Dictionary of Music* (London, 2000 Edition), various scholarly journals, and has over 60 music books and recordings available through ***Harrington ARTS Center Publications***.

Harrington has toured internationally as adjudicator, lecturer, workshops presenter, and concert accordionist and pianist. She explains and performs on all members of accordion-family-instruments in displays associated with the Museum.

Her music studios (***Accordion Concertina Music***) are among the foremost in the USA and participate in national competitions and festivals. The studios are located in Superior, WI, and Burnsville, MN.

***Accordion-concertina Repair and Technicians' School*** (ARTS) holds a "total proficiency" standard that provides graduates with full-time occupations in the industry. The associated repair shops service instruments worldwide.

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