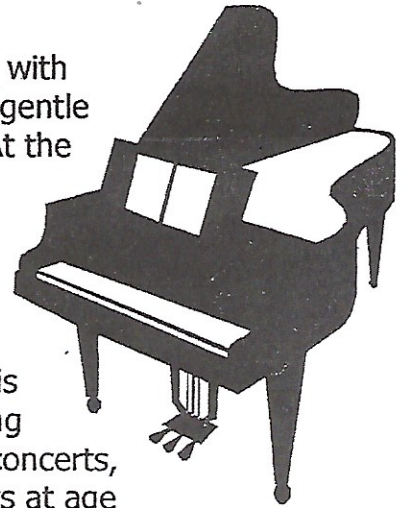


## Our Artist

Eric Maddox began his musical training at age four in piano with Shirley Chapman in Detroit, Michigan. "She was a kind and gentle person," he remembers. "She allowed me to play by ear." At the time, Eric was still in nursery school and could not read. He loved his piano lessons with Shirley and was deeply saddened when after six months she left for college. She was eighteen years old.



Eric turned his focus to singing and was a boy soprano in his local church and school. At age nine he began accompanying singers and youth choirs for services in the church, school concerts, and musicals. Eric became the director of his own two choirs at age thirteen. He conducted the children's choir and the youth choir for his local church, Saunders Memorial A.M.E. Church.

It was at this time when he met Herr Professor Walter Hyarik Mueller from Leipzig, Germany in 1960. After six years, Eric was encouraged to study organ, conducting, and German. And in 1966, he met Dr. Frederick Marriot at Central United Methodist Church and began organ lessons. Eric was encouraged by his music professors to attend Cass Technical High School where a college preparatory curriculum was designed for gifted students showing promise for a serious musical career.

In 1969, Eric was recipient of a full tuition scholarship from the University of Michigan's school of music. Enrolled as a double major in piano and choral conducting, Eric was asked to be the accompanist for the University of Michigan's Men's Glee Club. He accompanied them on a tour of thirteen European countries under the direction of Dr. Willis C. Patterson.

In 1972, Eric was first prize winner of the National Association of Negro Musicians Competition. In the same year, he was winner of the University of Michigan Concerto Competition. In 1974, he won the Albert Lockwood Scholarship "for piano excellence."

Eric lives in San Francisco and maintains a class of sixteen private students in piano and voice. He is currently the director of the Men's Ensemble, organist, and principal musician for Jones Memorial United Methodist Church.