

Dr. Kecia Ashford

Inducted into the *Hall of Fame* in 2005

Dr. Kecia Ashford attended Washington High school from 1980-1983. While at Washington she was active in the choral and theater departments. She sang in Concert Choir, Momentum and Madrigal Singers. She was an All-State singer. Kecia had major roles in numerous musical and drama productions at Washington. Upon graduation, Kecia studied Vocal Performance and Opera at University of Iowa, graduating in 1987. She went to Baylor University and earned her Master's of Music in Performance in 1989. While there, she performed the leading roles in several operas. Her education recently continued at Texas Tech where she was the first doctoral candidate to earn a Doctorate in Vocal Performance in 2004.

Kecia has had many vocal competition winnings, including The Dallas Opera Guild Career Development Grant, The San Antonio Opera Guild Award and the Central Texas Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions Award. She has performed throughout Europe as soloist with

the Midwestern Chorale and Orchestra and completed a residence program in Vienna, Austria. Kecia's performances include roles with the Southwestern Opera Theatre, Des Moines Metro Opera, Fort Worth Opera, The Dallas Opera and Muddy River Opera.

Kecia currently teaches at Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Texas, where she is a tenured faculty member. She is Associate Professor of Voice and Voice Area Head. She has twice been named to Who's Who Among America's Teachers for her outstanding work as a teacher and mentor in the Arts.

