

DAVID PERKINS



DAVID PERKINS is a writer, editor, college teacher, impresario, and singer who lives in Plainfield, MA. In 2016, he founded the Hilltown Chautauqua, a series of programs on pressing issues in American life in a varied format of talks, interviews, panels, workshops, and the visual, literary, and performing arts, presented in the Hilltowns of western Massachusetts. He taught journalism at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst for 12 years, and taught writing and journalism at Duke and N.C. State Universities.

An experienced journalist, he began his career as assistant editor of the *New Leader* magazine in New York. He worked as a reporter at the *Anniston (Ala.) Star* and later joined the staff of the *News and Observer (Raleigh, N.C.)*, where he was also the book review editor and classical music critic. In 1996, he created *Brightleaf: A Southern Review of Books*, of which he was editor and publisher. After moving to Massachusetts in 2001, he was a regular critic of classical music, theatre and dance for the *Boston Globe*.

A trained baritone, he has sung with many choruses, including the Boston Symphony's Tanglewood Festival Chorus for four seasons. He has performed as a soloist with the Keene Chorale, given numerous recitals, participated in many programs of the Wistaria Chamber Music Society, which he founded and directed from 2005-2016, and in the Concerts at 7 series in Plainfield. Since 2012, he has been the artistic director of Concerts at 7 series.

He was born in Princeton, New Jersey, and grew up in Ithaca, New York. He is a graduate of Yale and Cambridge universities.