



Evelyn (Batchelor) Mercer (1935-2020)

Evelyn received a BS and MS degree in Music Education, summa cum laude, from the Crane Department of Music at SUNY Potsdam. After two years as the high school choral teacher in Williamson Central Schools, she took a position as the choral director of Baldwinsville Central School's new high school in 1959.

While living in Baldwinsville, Evelyn served for many years as the church organist and choir director at Grace Episcopal Church and at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church. She was a frequent rehearsal accompanist and pianist for the Baldwinsville Theater Guild.

Following three years of teaching at the high school, Evelyn established a piano teaching studio in her home and continued to teach piano until 2005. She also accompanied hundreds of students auditioning for Conference All-State as well as some of the most notable professionals in Central New York, including John Oberbrunner and George Coble.

Evelyn dedicated many years of service to the Baldwinsville community. She served as a member of the Baldwinsville School Board for 16 years. She was its Vice-President in 1969-70 and President in 1985-86 and was a devoted advocate for the visual and performing arts programs. She was recognized for her service by receiving the William Krentel Award for outstanding board service by the Onondaga Madison School Boards Assn. Evelyn also served as one of the original members of the Baldwinsville Architectural Review Board. In 1971 she was honored as "Woman of the Year" by the Baldwinsville Volunteer Committee.