
In Memoriam



William Weber

1940–2024

Historian of Music and Modern Europe

Former Editor of The History Teacher



William Weber, a renowned historian and musicologist, was born in northern New Jersey on November 19, 1940. His academic journey began with a B.A. in History from Harvard College in 1963, followed by an M.A. in Modern European History and a Ph.D. from The University of Chicago, where he specialized in Music and Society from 1700 to 1900.

Dr. Weber had a distinguished teaching career at California State University, Long Beach, where he served from 1968 until his retirement in 2007. His research focused on music's social and cultural history, particularly the development of concert life in nineteenth-century Europe. He authored several influential works, including *Music and the Middle Class* (Routledge, 2003) and *The Great Transformation of Musical Taste* (Cambridge, 2008), cementing his reputation as a leading scholar in music history. Dr. Weber was also a respected Fulbright Scholar, having taught at prestigious institutions such as the University of York and the Royal College of Music in the United Kingdom.

In addition to his teaching and research, Dr. Weber contributed to various professional associations, including the American Historical Association, where he served as Vice-President of the Teaching Division, and the American Musicological Society. He mentored numerous doctoral students across the globe, shaping the future of musicology and history. Dr. Weber also played a pivotal role on the editorial board of *The History Teacher*, where he was instrumental in advancing the scholarship of history education, especially at the secondary and post-secondary levels. His dedication to *The History Teacher* spanned across decades back to its early years, as he organized several teaching conferences and served as Associate Editor from 1975-1981 and 1985-1995 and as Editor from 1995-2001.

A prolific author and esteemed professor, Dr. William Weber's legacy is marked by his deep exploration of intersections between social and political structures and music, as well as his dedication to education. He passed away after a lifetime of contributions to the academic world, leaving behind a rich legacy in both history education and musicology. His kind encouragement, warm smile, and melodic musings will be remembered by friends and colleagues throughout the world.
