

Doctoral and Masters Studies

Eastman School of Music

DMA in Wind Conducting

- Fennell Conducting Fellow.
- Recipient of the Walter Hagen Prize in Conducting.
- Thesis: *A Guide to Steven Bryant's Concerto for Wind Ensemble*; topics examined include the piece's place in the canon of large ensemble concerti, its blending of high and low registers of style, psycho-acoustical phenomena within the work and their effect on audience reception, and conducting and rehearsal suggestions.

Rochester, New York

November 2013

Conferred March 2014

Youngstown State University/Dana School Of Music

MM in Instrumental Conducting

- Thesis: Historical and Analytical notes on Igor Stravinsky's *Symphonies of Wind Instruments*, Gustav Holst's *Suite in F*, Malcolm Arnold's *Four Scottish Dances*, and Adam Gorb's *Awayday*.

Youngstown, Ohio

2007

Undergraduate Music Studies

The Ohio State University

BME, Cum Laude, trumpet principal

Columbus, Ohio

2003

University Conducting, Teaching, Program Administration

University of Nevada

Director of Bands, Wind Ensemble Conductor, Assistant Professor

Reno, Nevada

2014-present

Teaching

- Serve as conductor of the Nevada Wind Ensemble, selecting literature of the highest integrity, raising performance level of the group through teaching and conducting, implementing regular sectional rehearsals, raising the number of performance cycles per semester to three, and fostering student professionalism and personal responsibility for all aspects of music-making; resulting in high-quality performances of artistic merit; plan and administer 2016 Northern California tour, plan and administer 2017 CBDNA Division Conference tour, implement 2017 recording project.
- Administer the University's band program, managing audition process, intra-university recruiting, concert schedules, a budget of over \$300,000 per year, social media, event promotion, personnel, and graduate/guest conductor assignments; resulting in the creation of proper conditions for high-quality music making.
- Founded and conduct the Nevada Chamber Players, a professional chamber music ensemble performing wind-centric chamber works, comprised of professionals and advanced university students.
- Work directly with Associate Director of Bands/Director of Athletic Bands, guiding on issues of athletic band teaching, show design, and administration, and participating in athletic band performances and events; resulting in a unified total band program that has greater student participation across ensembles.
- Designed and implemented an MM in wind conducting degree; recruit students and advise them through the degree.
- Designed and implemented a DMA in wind conducting degree.
- Instruct MM students in conducting: mentor practicing music educators who study part time, and full-time graduate students with aspirations of conducting professionally. Assign repertoire based on each student's needs and long-term goals; provide conducting instruction in ensemble and applied lesson settings. Advise graduate students on future employment and graduate school options, and support placement in graduate programs and employment.
- Teach graduate coursework on the philosophy of instrumental music education, program administration, and wind repertoire.
- Teach undergraduate Instrumental Methods: semester course, moving progressively through stages of teaching instrumentalists (rhythm and pitch, beginning band, middle school, high school), intensive class teaching episodes and feedback, error detection drills; interspersed in this progressive model are philosophical, administrative, and ethics topics.
- Teach undergraduate Instrumental Conducting: second course following an introductory conducting course; emphasizes score study, analysis, preparation and internalization; topics germane to instrumental conducting (asymmetrical meter, transpositions, extended works); intensive conducting episodes in class with feedback/coaching.

University Conducting, Teaching, Program Administration *cnt'd*

Service

- Chair, Associate Director of Bands Search Committee (2017-2018).
- Chair, Interim Associate Director of Bands Search Committee (2017).
- Serve as CBDNA Western/Northwestern Division Webmaster (2015-present).
- Planned and hosted the 2016 College Band Directors Western/Northwestern Division Conference, held at the University of Nevada; collaborated with CBDNA board members, conductors, presenters; managed all logistics and personnel; arranged and coordinated all aspects of hotel, meetings, dining, and performance venues; developed schedule and print materials; marketed event, including designing and maintaining a website (2015-2016).
- Chair, Music Education/Assistant Director of Bands position (2015-2016).
- Serve as chair of music department recruitment committee, initiating the University's first music major-specific recruiting campaign. Work with Office of Prospective Students to integrate marketing strategies with the music department through targeted mailings and emails to high school students, sharing of prospective student data within the University's Salesforce platform—allowing for tracking of prospective students, and follow-up conversations. Worked with applied faculty to develop recruiting plans for their respective areas, identified high-quality potential students and assisted applied faculty in gaining commitments. Developed hardcopy marketing products and guided webmaster on site revisions that support these initiatives (2014, ongoing).
- Continually work to improve the quality of music education in the Nevada public schools by producing quality undergraduates, mentoring teachers, leading by example, and assisting K-12 administrators with national searches for open teaching positions (2014-present).
- Collaborate with colleagues to rebrand the University's music department as a destination for serious music majors by highlighting faculty strengths, projected this image to public school music teachers through relationships and marketing (2014-present).
- Completed an average of 40 high school visits throughout Nevada and California per year, providing rehearsal clinics, and recruiting presentations. Recruiting efforts resulted in a 100 percent increase in music student auditees, and a 25% increase in enrolled music majors year-over-year (2014-present).

Seton Hill University

Instrumental Studies Coordinator, Assistant Professor

Greensburg, Pennsylvania

2013-2014

- Served as conductor and music director of the Westmoreland Symphonic Winds; responsible for programming, personnel management, and coordinating with community music liaison for promotion of events.
- Implemented a player pool approach to balance instrumentation resulting in individual bands drawn from a large pool.
- Raised performance quality of the group through conducting and rehearsing, apt programming, and personnel assignments based on player strengths.
- Founded the Three Rivers Youth Wind Ensemble, a premier high school honor group serving as outreach to serious high school musicians in the Pittsburgh Metropolitan Area; focused on recruitment, the ensemble was designed to target a broad geographic and demographic swath while providing students the opportunity for high-level music performance.
- Taught a re-imagined undergraduate conducting curriculum, consisting of one-semester fundamentals course followed by advanced instrumental conducting course; structured class meetings with blending of coaching, lecture, and enrichment through multimedia presentations and kinesthetic activities; assigned a varied repertoire to reinforce course objectives.
- Taught Music Theory and Analysis I-IV utilizing an interactive lecture approach, involving students through individual and group coaching in class; overhauled dated curriculum; screened and selected text and supplemental materials in support of course objectives.
- Utilized classroom technology, including iPads, to enhance student self-assessment in conducting courses; developed additional technology driven summative assessments in music theory courses through the Moodle platform.
- Fostered relationships with regional high school music educators through service; secured and carried out frequent school visit clinics; secured guest conducting opportunities.

University Conducting, Teaching, Program Administration *cnt'd*

Eastman School of Music

Rochester, New York

Eastman Wind Ensemble, Assistant Conductor

2011-2013

- Served as guest conductor of Eastman Wind Ensemble and Wind Orchestra on at least four performances per semester, leading ensembles to a high level of artistic expression and clarity in performance; when circumstances arose, conducted both ensembles in absence of principal conductor.
- Collaborated with principal conductor addressing issues of balance and musical communication in the hall to maximize audience perception.
- Served as Tour Manager for Toronto Tour, 2013; coordinated equipment move, personnel, and transportation.
- Participated in administrative and planning duties including research, program preparation, personnel confirmation, and communication with external entities, thus perpetuating the worldwide reputation of the Eastman Wind Ensemble.

Conducting Lab Instructor/Teaching Assistant

2011-2013

- Provided hands-on conducting instruction to students enrolled in undergraduate conducting, producing proficient, musical, and thoughtful conductors.
- Structured class lessons with an emphasis on individual attention, constant engagement of all students, and the infusion of real-world thinking.
- Developed lesson plans utilizing group instruction techniques, one-on-one counseling, and symposium style conducting critique.

Youngstown State University/Dana School Of Music

Youngstown, Ohio

Youngstown State University Graduate Assistant and Principal Conductor, Symphonic Band

2005-2007

- Served as principal conductor of YSU Symphonic Band, responsible for all artistic and personnel decisions in an ensemble comprised of music majors on principal and secondary instruments, and students from across the university.
- Recruited players from within the school of music and athletic bands to fill out and complement instrumentation; managed repertoire selection, scheduling, and guest conductors.
- Served as guest conductor for Wind Ensemble and Concert Band a minimum of two performances per semester.
- Assistant conductor of the Henry H. Stambaugh Youth Concert Band, conducting and teaching the high school honors group, building relationships with students and fostering a connection between the university and those students.
- Assisted with YSU Marching Pride, crafting and teaching marching band drill, facilitating full ensemble music rehearsals and sectionals, leading music in the stands, participating in administrative efforts including travel.
- Principal Trumpet, YSU Wind Ensemble.

Additional Teaching Experience

Ashland City Schools

Ashland, Ohio

Director of Bands

2007-2011

- Conducted and taught Ashland High School Wind Ensemble with an emphasis on high-quality repertoire and high-level music making; encouraged and developed musical understanding, creative thinking, and quality performing in each player.
- Wind Ensemble leadership manifested in successful Ohio Music Educators Association adjudicated event performances including the OMEA state level event; conducted Ashland High School Jazz Band A resulting in regular participation and awards at jazz festivals; taught competitive corps-style marching band from a music education based platform, resulting in first-ever OMEA state level adjudicated event appearance.
- Maintained over a 100% retention rate; attracted additional high school players to join the program.
- Responsible for all administrative duties of high school and elementary program, managed full and part time teaching personnel, oversaw annual budget of approximately \$50,000, frequently communicated with parents, colleagues/administrators, booster group, and community.
- Screened and hired full-time instrumental faculty on three occasions; sought teachers who exemplified outstanding personality, pedagogy, and artistry; oversaw pedagogical practices in grades 5-6 band resulting in uniform quality teaching throughout the district.
- Placed students in collegiate music programs, and guided them in the career and college selection process.

Additional Teaching Experience cnt'd

Sidney City Schools

Sidney, Ohio

Director of Bands

2003-2005

- Taught concert, marching and jazz band in grades 5-12.
- Raised performance level of a previously languishing band program, moved the program forward to receive consistent "Excellent" ratings at OMEA adjudicated events.

Major Conducting Teachers

Mark Scatterday

2011-2013

Neil Varon

2011-2012

Stephen Gage

2005-2007

Russel Mikkelson

2001-2003

Richard Blatti

2000-2003

Honors, Awards, and Grants Received

University of Nevada

Reno, Nevada

Edna B. and Bruno Benna Excellence in the Fine Arts Endowment Grant

- Competitively awarded grant funding to secure that Gaudete Brass as artist in residence, performing a recital, offering masterclasses, and performing and recording with the Nevada Wind Ensemble.

Scholarly and Creative Activity Grant Recipient

2017

- Competitively awarded grant for the purposes of purchasing technology and travel funding for research of Donald Hunsberger, long-time conductor of the Eastman Wind Ensemble.

Scholarly and Creative Activity Grant Recipient

2015

- Competitively awarded grant for the purposes of purchasing technology and travel funding for research of Frederick Fennell, founder of the Eastman Wind Ensemble.

Eastman School of Music

Walter Hagen Prize in Conducting

Rochester, New York

- For excellence in conducting at the Eastman School, awarded by faculty nomination and consensus.
2014

Eastman School of Music

Fennell Conducting Fellow

Rochester, New York

2011-2013

- Awarded fellowship funds based on outstanding conducting and scholarship, offered above and beyond the typical Eastman Graduate Award.

West Point Band Conducting Workshop

West Point, New York

Participant

2012

- Selected from auditioned pool to conduct and receive critique with the West Point Band; Michael Haithcock clinician.

National Band Association International Conducting Symposium

Rome, Italy

Participant

2009

- Selected from a national field of public school band conductors to attend conducting workshops and cultural immersion activities with the Italian Army Band, studied with Maestro Fulvio Creux.

Young Conductor/Young Composer Mentorship Project

Normal, Illinois

Project Participant

2006

- Selected by the National Band Association from a national pool of conductors under the age of 29 for the purpose of learning from experienced conductor and composer mentors.

Guest Conducting, Performing, and Adjudicating

California All State Middle School Band, Fresno, CA – Invited Guest Conductor	Scheduled January 2019
Northeast Nevada High School Honor Band, Elko, NV – Invited Guest Conductor	Scheduled January 2018
California Polytechnic University, Pomona, CA – Invited Guest Conductor	Scheduled November 2017
DePaul University, Chicago, IL – Invited Artist in Residence/Guest Conductor	Scheduled September/October 2017
Lake Tahoe Music Camp, South Lake Tahoe, CA – Invited Guest Conductor	July 2017
Annandale High School/Fairfax County Public Schools, Annandale, VA – Invited Guest Conductor	May 2017
California State University, Los Angeles, CA – Invited Guest Conductor	May 2017
Chabot College Concert Band Festival, Hayward, CA – Adjudicator	April 2017
Nevada Music Educators Association Northern Zone, Carson City, NV - Adjudicator	March 2017
Clovis North Concert Band Festival, Fresno, CA – Invited Adjudicator	March 2017
James Logan High School Wind Band Invitational, Union City, CA – Invited Clinician/Adjudicator	March 2017
Sonoma State University Wind Band and Orchestra Festival, CA – Invited Clinician/Adjudicator	March 2017
Washoe County School District Band Festival, Reno, NV – Adjudicator	March 2017
Augustana College, Sioux Falls, SD – Honor Band Conductor	November 2016
Augustana College, Sioux Falls, SD – Guest Conductor, College Band	November 2016
Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, MN – Invited Guest Clinician/Lecturer	September 2016
Eastman Wind Ensemble, Rochester, NY – Invited Guest Conductor	April 2016
Nevada All-State Band for Small Schools, Elko, NV – Invited Guest Conductor	April 2016
Southern Nevada Band Association, Las Vegas, NV – Adjudicator	April 2016
Nevada Music Educators Association Northern Zone, Carson City, NV – Adjudicator	March 2016
Washoe County School District, Reno NV, Honor Band, Reno, NV – Invited Guest Conductor	February 2016
Clark County School District Honor Band, Las Vegas NV – Invited Guest Conductor	January 2016
Reno Philharmonic - Off-stage Trumpet	October 2015
Lake Tahoe Music Camp - Applied Trumpet Instructor	July 2015
Pennsylvania Music Educators Association DI East Honor Band, Latrobe, PA – Invited Guest Conductor	January 2015
Norwin High School, Performance Assessment, Norwin, PA - Adjudicator	May 2014
Kiski High School, Performance Assessment, Vandergrift, PA - Adjudicator	May 2014
Community Music School of Seton Hill Univ. Honor Band, Greensburg, PA – Invited Guest Conductor	March 2014
Chenango County, NY High School Honor Band – Invited Guest Conductor	April 2014
Westmoreland County, PA Honor Band – Invited Guest Conductor	April 2014
Chenango County, NY Junior High Honor Band – Invited Guest Conductor	April 2013

Creative Activity and Notable Performances

The Nevada Wind Ensemble: Jury Selected Performance at the CBDNA Western/Northwestern Division Conference (March 2018, Sonoma, CA)

The Nevada Wind Ensemble: Workshops/Performance with the Gaudete Brass in Residence (December 2017, Reno, NV)

The Nevada Wind Ensemble: Workshops/Performance with Samuel Adler in Residence (November 2017, Reno, NV)

DePaul University, Artist in Residence (September 2017): Conducting Masterclasses and Ensemble Clinician, DePaul Wind Symphony

Nevada Music Educators Association (June 2017, South Lake Tahoe, NV): *Teacher That Conducts or Conductor That Teaches?*

The Nevada Wind Ensemble: Music for All Regional Festival, Invited Featured Ensemble (April 2017, Fresno, CA)

Augustana University, Knutson Master Series Lecture (November 2016, Sioux Falls, SD): *Seeking, Understanding, and Creating Aesthetic Experiences*

Creative Activity and Notable Performances cnt'd

Eastman Wind Ensemble: The Hunsberger Years (in progress)

- Scholarly project produced in collaboration with Mark Scatterday, present Eastman Wind Ensemble conductor, which focuses on the chronology of Donald Hunsberger's conductorship of the Eastman Wind Ensemble. More specifically, this text tells the story of the EWE and its accomplishments through the repertoire that was programmed and promoted by Hunsberger.

Nevada Music Educators Association (June 2016, South Lake Tahoe, NV): Wind Band Repertoire Reading Session

Nevada Music Educators Association (June 2016, South Lake Tahoe, NV): Conducting Workshop Clinician

The Nevada Wind Ensemble: CBDNA Western/Northwestern Division Conference Host Performance (March 2016, Reno NV)

The Nevada Wind Ensemble: Workshops/Performance with Eric Whitacre in Residence (March 2016, Reno NV)

The Midwest Clinic, An International Band and Orchestra Conference (December 2015, Chicago, IL): *What Fennell Wanted You to Know*

- Peer reviewed conference presentation that exposes conductor Frederick Fennell's letters, and annotated scores, most of which have previously been unknown to members of the wind conducting profession.

College Band Directors National Association National Conference (March 2015, Nashville, TN): *Understanding Steven Bryant's Concerto for Wind Ensemble, a Conversation With the Composer*

- Peer reviewed conference presentation with composer Steven Bryant. Identified and exposed salient themes regarding compositional intent and interpretive ideas applicable to the conductor's preparation, rehearsal, and performance process.

World Association of Symphonic Band Ensembles Journal (January 2015): *A Conductor's Guide to Steven Bryant's Concerto for Wind Ensemble*

- Peer reviewed article, highlighting Bryant's compositional techniques and their effect on audience perception, ideas regarding interpretive concerns, and conducting and rehearsal suggestions.

Eastman Wind Ensemble/Eastman Virtuosi CD (2013): *L'Histoire du Soldat, Octet; Avie Records*

- Served as production assistant on this collaborative project between faculty and student performers, co-produced recording sessions from booth, assisted in track selection and mixing.

OMEA TRIAD (December 2010): *Worried About Burn-Out? What About Burn-in?*

- This article addresses challenges to the high school conductor about modifying students' sounds over the long-term of a career. Suggestions are given to maintain high aural standards and to utilize quality aural imagery in the context of teaching.

National Band Association Journal (December 2008): *A Great View of The Big Picture*

- This article frames the 2008 NBA International Conducting Symposium in terms of macro-level music making. Comparisons and observations are drawn between the band culture of Italy and that of America with an emphasis on the intangibles that inspire music performance.

References

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