

ELIZABETH K. SWANSON, D.M.

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EDUCATION

- Doctor of Music, Conducting (Choral)** 2010
Northwestern University Biene School of Music (Evanston, IL)
Kenneth G. and Helen C. Merrill Scholarship; Frederick Swann Scholarship; Philip H. Hagemann Prize
- Master of Music, Conducting (Choral)** 2005
Ithaca College School of Music (Ithaca, NY)
Graduate Assistantship (full-tuition)
- Bachelor of Music, Music Education (Vocal)** 2002
St. Olaf College (Northfield, MN)
G. Winston Cassler Endowed Scholarship

CURRENT CONDUCTING, TEACHING, & LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

INTERIM DIRECTOR OF CHORAL STUDIES, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF MUSIC

University of Colorado Boulder College of Music (Boulder, CO) Fall 2018–Present
University of Colorado Boulder is the flagship university of the University of Colorado system. The College of Music offers undergraduate, master's, and doctoral degrees in music.

Conducting

University Singers: This ensemble is comprised of the best choral singers at CU. Select repertoire, 4 rehearsals per week, fall choir retreat, HS Honor "Reading" Choir festival performance, Bernstein at 100 festival dress/ concert, November dress/ concert, Holiday Festival dress/ concert, overseeing graduate assistant's work)

University Choir: Select repertoire, audition and recruit members, conducted six concerts (*Bernstein at 100*; Fall Concert; four Holiday Festival performances) and two festival performances (Honor Reading Choir Festival; Madrigal Festival)

CU Choral Festivals: Honor "Reading" Choir Festival (oversee, host, conductor), Madrigal Festival (oversee, host, conductor), Holiday Festival (oversee all CU Choirs, conductor)

Collaborations: Unique collaboration with music electronics department.

Community Choir rehearsals (Monday nights 8/27–10/1): Rehearsals with select community members who participated in singing Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms* for the Oct. 7 "Bernstein at 100" festival.

Teaching/ Mentoring

Graduate student mentorship & advisement: Regular meetings with graduate students (bi-weekly), oversee conducting practicum (weekly), observe graduate-student-led ensemble rehearsals and Conducting I (roughly 2 each per semester), attending all CU Choirs dress rehearsals and concerts and provide feedback, mentoring (scheduled and ad hoc), applied lessons for incoming doctoral student, member of doctoral student committees, write, edit and vet all choral programs and program notes for concerts.

Undergraduate mentorship: Oversee student chapter of American Choral Directors Association (ACDA), mentor students (ad hoc)

Administrative Tasks

Oversee the choral budget, payment of all choral-related purchases (food, choral uniforms, retreats, hiring instrumentalists, festivals, etc.), regular meetings with graduate assistants for all concerts and festivals, meetings with the Voice Chair, committee meetings, the point person for anything choral-related.

Service

Diversity Committee, Coordinate with College of Music Admissions Department to actively recruit prospective students for the College of Music.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF CHORAL STUDIES, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF MUSIC**University of Colorado Boulder College of Music (Boulder, CO)**

2017–2018

University of Colorado Boulder is the flagship university of the University of Colorado system. The College of Music offers undergraduate, master's, and doctoral degrees in music.

Conducting: Conductor of the University Choir. Select repertoire, audition and recruit members, conduct four to six concerts per semester on and off campus, including a local 3-day/ 2-night recruitment tour to Estes Park, Colorado Springs, and Denver.

Courses: Conducting I, Conducting II, applied lessons in conducting (master's and doctoral level).

Leadership and Service: Diversity Committee, Coordinate with College of Music Admissions Department to actively recruit prospective students for the College of Music, oversee Middle School Choral Summer Music Academy (forthcoming, 2018).

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER, SECRETARY**

Jan. 2016–Dec. 2017

National Collegiate Choral Organization (NCCO)

Responsibilities: Two-year term. Worked closely with the Executive Board to plan, curate, and execute the NCCO's 7th biennial conference at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, LA. Additionally, responsibilities included maintenance of the database of national membership (1,000+ members); regular communication with membership; maintenance of the NCCO's website.

Conducting Fellowship Program: I helped to spearhead and organized the NCCO Conducting Fellowship Program. The objectives of the program are to encourage and support graduate students who are on the cusp of a career in academia, 2.) To provide an opportunity to sharpen conducting technique, score preparation skills, and rehearsal methods in a conducting masterclass with a conference Headliner, 3.) To provide networking opportunities with fellow collegiate choral conductors with the intent to develop mentor/ mentee relationships that continue beyond the conference, 4.) To encourage graduate student activity at the NCCO National Conference. In its inaugural year (2017) a total of 5 Conducting Fellows were chosen out of a competitive pool of 42 applicants nation-wide.

<https://www.ncco-usa.org/conferences/ncco7/fellowship/>

FORMER CONDUCTING, TEACHING, & FREELANCE EXPERIENCE**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF MUSIC**

2016–2017

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF MUSIC

2010–2016

Nyack College School of Music, Manhattan Campus (New York, NY)

Nyack College is a Christian 4-year liberal arts institution and seminary with campuses in NYC and Nyack, NY. The School of Music offers Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Arts degrees in music. The Manhattan campus is one of the most diverse liberal arts Christian colleges in the nation.

Conducting: Conductor of Nyack College Chorale (45 members). Conducted four to six concerts per semester on and off campus including performances in all five boroughs of NYC.

Spearheaded, planned, and executed domestic tours (Florida, Midwest, and Northeast).

Conducted Nyack College Chorale concerts at David Geffen Hall (formerly, Avery Fisher Hall) at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in 2013, 2015, and 2017.

Courses: Fundamentals of Conducting, Choral Conducting Rehearsal Methods, Music History of the 20th and 21st centuries, Ear Training and Sight Singing I–IV, applied lessons in conducting.

Leadership and Service: Secretary, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (2 years); Academic Advisor for 20 music majors; extensive collaboration with other departments. Coordinated with Nyack College Admissions Department to recruit prospective students.

ARTS ADMINISTRATOR, PROFESSIONAL ENSEMBLE MANAGER (part-time) 2014–2017**Manhattan Concert Productions and Manhattan Chorale (New York, NY)**

Manhattan Chorale is a 24-voice all-professional choral ensemble conducted by Dr. Craig Arnold, under the auspices of Manhattan Concert Productions. Manhattan Chorale performs regularly at Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center, Merkin Concert Hall at The Kaufman Music Center, and other venues in NYC, and has toured to Boston, Chicago, and Washington D.C.

Responsibilities: Led choral sectionals, oversaw administrative aspects of ensemble leadership, contracted professional freelance singers, facilitated concert hall negotiations, collaborated with orchestra contractor of New York City Chamber Orchestra, facilitated recording projects.

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR 2009–2010

North Park University (Chicago, IL)

Conductor: North Park University Women's Chorale and Chamber Singers

GUEST CONDUCTOR 2009

Roosevelt University – Chicago College of Performing Arts (Chicago, IL)

Conductor: Roosevelt University Women's Chorus

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF CHOIRS 2008–2010

University of Chicago (Chicago, IL)

Conductor: University Women's Chorale; **Assistant Conductor:** University Chorus

Guest Conductor: Rockefeller Chapel Choir

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF MUSIC 2005–2006

Ithaca College School of Music (Ithaca, NY)

Sabbatical replacement for Professor Lawrence Doeblner and Dr. Janet Galván

Conductor: Ithaca College Madrigal Singers, Women's Chorale, and Chorus

Instructor: Choral Conducting I, Choral Conducting II, Vocal Pedagogy

CONDUCTING WORKSHOPS, FESTIVALS, & ENGAGEMENTS

Rocky Mountain Invitational Choir Festival: Festival Clinician (Nov. 2018)

Leiderkranz Conference: Attendee (Sept. 2018)

Aspen Music Festival: Attendee Seraphic Fire residency/ Choral Institute (Aug. 2018)

Conducting Clinician: Talent Unlimited High School, New York City (Oct. 2018)

Festival Clinician: Fort Collins High School (Fort Collins, CO), April 2018

Festival Clinician: Denver Public Schools Choral Showcase at North High School (Denver, CO), March 2018

Choral Clinician and/or Visitor: visited Legacy High School, Arvada West HS; Jan.–Dec. 2018

Fairview HS; Brighton HS; Vocal COalition; Nederland HS; Overland Trail Middle School; Denver School of the Arts; North High School; Stuart Middle School; Rocky Mountain HS Boulder HS, Broomfield HS, Denver School of the Arts, East HS, Fairview HS, Nederland HS, North HS, Prairie View HS, Rocky Mountain HS, Westminster HS.

Festival Conductor: CO ACDA Collegiate Choral Festival, University of Denver. November 2017

Festival Clinician: Castle View High School Women's Chorus Festival (Castle Rock, CO) October 2017

Festival Clinician: Poudre School District Women's Chorus Festival (Fort Collins, CO) October 2017

Conducting Masterclass Clinician: Western Illinois University (2 undergraduate students; 1 master's student) October 2017

Vocal Coach: CODA Concerts high school participants (New York, NY) April 2017

Vocal Coach: CODA Concerts high school participants (New York, NY) 2016

Conducting Clinician: Western Michigan Christian School from Muskegon, MI (New York, NY) 2015

Conducting Fellow: Chorus America Choral-Orchestral Conducting Masterclass hosted by Mannes College, (New York, NY) 2014

Conducting Clinician: Punahou School from Honolulu, HI (New York, NY) 2013

Conducting Clinician and Adjudicator: District 204 High Schools (Chicago, IL) 2008

Conducting Clinician: University Liggett School from Gross Point Woods, MI (Evanston, IL) 2008

Conducting Fellow: Chorus America *A Cappella* Choral Conducting Masterclass hosted by *VocalEssence* and St. Olaf College (Minneapolis, MN) 2007

Conducting Clinician: Sleepy Eye High School Chorus from Sleepy Eye, MN (Evanston, IL) 2007

Guest Conductor: Cornell University Chorale, Cornell University (Ithaca, NY) 2006

Conducting Finalist: American Choral Director's Association (ACDA) National Graduate Student Conducting Competition at the ACDA National Convention (Los Angeles, CA) 2005

REGIONAL & NATIONAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & LEADERSHIP

Adjudicator, Ekstrand Semi-Finals	November 2018
Chorus America National Conference	June 2018
Presenter: "Meditation and Mindfulness" Presented and led a group discussion on the topic (twice).	
Southwestern American Choral Directors Association (SWACDA)	March 2018
Adjudicator: Undergraduate-level conducting competition. Adjudicated for semi-final and final rounds of the competition.	
Colorado Music Educators Association (CMEA) Annual Conference	January 2018
Lecturer: "Personal Sustainability in a Music Career" (Colorado Springs, CO)	
National Collegiate Choral Organization (NCCO) Seventh National Conference	2017
Executive Board Member, Secretary: Collaborate with organizing, facilitating, and overseeing the National Conference. Louisiana State University (Baton Rouge, LA).	
National Collegiate Choral Organization (NCCO) Sixth National Conference	2015
Chair of Poster Session Committee: Organize, facilitate, and oversee the Poster Session for the National Conference. Portland State University (Portland, OR).	
National Collegiate Choral Organization (NCCO) Fifth National Conference	2013
Lecturer and Poster Session Presenter: "Fifty Years Later: Steven Stucky's <i>August 4, 1964</i> ." College of Charleston (Charleston, SC).	
National Symposium on American Choral Music, ACDA	2012
Lecturer: "The Search for an American Style: Steven Stucky's Oratorio, <i>August 4, 1964</i> ." (Washington, DC).	
30th Annual New Music Festival, MidAmerican Center for Contemporary Music	2009
Lecturer: "The Music of Steven Stucky." Bowling Green State University (Bowling Green, OH).	

PUBLICATIONS

- Author:** "August 4, 1964 — 50 Years Later" in *Choral Journal* by American Choral Directors Association. Volume 55, No. 1, pp. 50–55. August 2014
- Author:** "August 4, 1964: An American Oratorio by Steven Stucky" in *The Search for an American Style: Proceedings of ACDA's National Symposium*, published through the American Choral Directors Association's Digital Publishing House (online digital publishing, 2013)
- Author:** Reviews for Repertoire Resource Guide: "Hans Leo Hassler, 'Verbum caro factum est'; Steven Sametz, 'I Have Had Singing'; Johann Hermann Schein, 'Christ lag in Todesbanden'; Igor Stravinsky, 'Ave Maria,'" in *Teaching Music through Performance in Choir*, vol. 2., Buchanan, Heather and Matthew Mehaffey, eds. (Chicago: GIA Publications, 2007)

PROFESSIONAL ENSEMBLE MEMBERSHIP (MEZZO-SOPRANO)

Manhattan Chorale (New York, NY) – Craig Arnold, conductor	2013–2017
Chorale Le Chateau (New York, NY) – Damien Sneed, conductor	2016
Grant Park Music Festival Chorus (Chicago, IL) – Christopher Bell, conductor	2009
Chicago Symphony Chorus (Chicago, IL) – Duain Wolfe, conductor	2008–2010

UNDERGRADUATE & GRADUATE CONDUCTING & TEACHING EXPERIENCE

GRADUATE CONDUCTOR AND DOCTORAL ASSISTANT	2006–2008
Northwestern University Bienen School of Music	
Conductor: Northwestern University Women's Chorus	
Doctoral Assistant Conductor: Northwestern University Chorale and Chorus	
GRADUATE CONDUCTOR & GRADUATE ASSISTANT	2003–2005
Ithaca College School of Music	
Graduate Conductor: Ithaca College Chamber Orchestra, Ithaca College Wind Ensemble, Ithaca College Madrigal Singers, Ithaca College Choir, Ithaca College Women's Chorale	
STUDENT CONDUCTOR, SECTION LEADER, TEACHING ASSISTANT	1999–2003
St. Olaf College Department of Music	
Student Conductor and Section Leader: St. Olaf Choir; St. Olaf Cantorei; Manitou Singers	
Teaching Assistant: Ear Training and Keyboard classes	

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Choral Directors Association (ACDA); Chorus America; Colorado American Choral Directors Association (CoACDA); Colorado Music Educators Association (CMEA); National Association for Music Education (NAfME); National Collegiate Choral Organization (NCCO)