

Elizabeth K. Swanson

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EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

DOCTOR OF MUSIC, CONDUCTING

Northwestern University Bienen School of Music (Evanston, IL)

- Thesis: "Steven Stucky's *August 4, 1964*: A Contextual Analysis"
- Robert Harris, Major Advisor

MASTER OF MUSIC, CONDUCTING

Ithaca College School of Music (Ithaca, NY)

- Dr. Janet Galván, Major Advisor

BACHELOR OF MUSIC, VOCAL MUSIC EDUCATION

St. Olaf College (Northfield, MN)

POSITIONS HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF MUSIC

2017–present

University of Colorado, Boulder

Associate Director of Choral Studies

2017–present

- Conductor, University Choir (2017–present); CU Treble Chorus (2021–present)
- Instructor, Conducting I; Conducting II; applied lessons in conducting (MM & DMA)
- Member, College of Music Diversity Committee
- Faculty Advisor, CU Student ACDA Chapter 2017–present
- Member, College of Music Ally Advocacy Committee 2020–2021
 - Concert Repertoire DEI Task Force
 - Planning committee, Fall 2021 faculty retreat DEIA presentation
- Adjudicator, Ekstrand Competition (Semi-Finals) 2018

Interim Director of Choral Studies

Fall 2018–Fall 2019

- Conductor, University Singers; University Choir (3 semesters)
 - Instructor, Conducting I; Conducting II; applied lessons in conducting (MM & DMA)
 - Administrator, Choral Department
- Administrative Tasks included the following:** Organized & executed fall choral auditions for CU Choirs; Calendar-planning for future academic years 2020–21, 2021–22; Booked choral performance and festival venues (Grusin, Macky, Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church); Ordered music and concert attire; Hired instrumentalist collaborators (students and professionals); Participated in ongoing discussions and made necessary decisions related to new choral rehearsal space and choral offices in the Imig Music Building addition; Helped shape new rehearsal schedules for choirs; Held meetings regularly with prospective students (undergraduate and graduate); Selected graduate student applicants for on-campus interviews; Selected graduate students and financial aid package offers for MM/ DMA students; Hosted guest conductors/ lecturers (Fall 2019): Dr. Ann Howard Jones, Dr. Sharon Hansen, Dr. Joan Conlon, Mr. Rick Bjella and was the point-person for each guest conductor.

CONDUCTING (CREATIVE WORK & TEACHING) (2017–present)

National

- **Conductor-in-Residence, National Festival Chorus (forthcoming)** March 2024
Carnegie Hall (New York, NY); Produced by Manhattan Concert Productions
- **Conducting Masterclass Clinician and Guest Conductor-in-Residence (forthcoming)**
University of St. Thomas (Minneapolis, MN) Spring 2024
- **Conducting Masterclass Clinician and Guest Rehearsal Conductor-in-Residence (forthcoming)** **University of Wyoming** (Laramie, WY) Fall 2023
- **Chorus Master, Colorado Ballet's production of *The Nutcracker*** Dec. 2022
I vocally prepared the CU Treble Chorus for a performance of "The Dance of the Snowflakes" (end of Act I). The show was produced by Colorado Ballet; the performance was for a sold-out audience at the Ellie Caulkins Opera House (Catherine Sailer, conductor). Dec. 8, 2022.
- **Conducting Masterclass Clinician and Guest Rehearsal Conductor-in-Residence**
University of Hawai'i-Mānoa (Honolulu, HI) April 2022
 - I led a conducting masterclass for MM students
 - I provided feedback for graduate students leading rehearsals with university ensembles
- **Festival Conductor** April 2022
Hawai'i ACDA Collegiate Choral Festival (Honolulu, HI)
 - Selected repertoire and rehearsed the Hawaii ACDA Collegiate Choir for two consecutive days; conducted a festival performance on the evening of the second day (Orvis Auditorium, University of Hawai'i-Mānoa)
- **Conducting Clinician** April 2022
Punahou School (Honolulu, HI)
 - I led rehearsal with the Punahou Chorale in preparation for their spring concert.
- **Conductor-in-Residence, National Festival Chorus** March 2022
Carnegie Hall (New York, NY); Produced by Manhattan Concert Productions
 - Evening concert with the 130-member National Festival Chorus (comprised of choirs from Colorado, Florida, New Jersey, and New York).
 - 75 CU Boulder students and community members participated as singers in this concert.
- **Undergraduate Conducting Masterclass Clinician (invited)** Mar. 2022
SWACDA Conference (Little Rock, AR)
 - I was one of two Conference Masterclass Clinicians for the Undergraduate Conducting Finalists.
- **Guest Conductor-in-Residence** Fall 2021
Baylor University (Waco, TX)
 - Canceled due to Covid.
- **Guest Conductor-in-Residence** Feb. 2021
University of Arizona (Tucson, AZ)
 - Canceled due to Covid.
- **Conducting Masterclass Clinician** Nov. 2020
University of Missouri (Columbia, MO)
 - Conducting masterclass (virtual) with MM choral conducting students.

- **Conducting Clinician** Jan. 2020
Davidson College (Davidson, NC)
 - I led a 2-hour rehearsal workshop with the Davidson College Chorale at CU Boulder.
- **Guest Rehearsal Conductor** Nov. 2019
Wellesley College (Wellesley, MA)
 - I conducted a 2-hour rehearsal with the Wellesley College Choir at Wellesley College.
- **Conducting Masterclass Clinician and Guest Rehearsal Conductor-in-Residence**
Cincinnati Conservatory of Music (CCM) (Cincinnati, OH) April 2019
- **Guest Conductor-in-Residence** Jan. 2019
Montana State University (Bozeman, MT)
- **Conducting Masterclass Clinician** Oct. 2017
Western Illinois University (Macomb, IL)
 - Led conducting masterclass with undergraduate and master's conducting students at CU Boulder.

Regional/ Local

- **Conductor and Faculty Host, VOCES8 Masterclass with CU Choirs (forthcoming)** March 2023
 - This Grammy-nominated, world-renowned vocal ensemble will present a 2-hour masterclass with CU choirs.
 - VOCES8 is on their US tour and visiting CU Boulder by my invitation.
 - The workshop is supported by a generous Roser Mini-Grant and a Bixler Foundation Award
- **Conductor, University Choir** Jan. 2023
Colorado Music Educators Association (CMEA) Clinic/Conference (Colorado Springs, CO)
Conducted four pieces with the University Choir at the annual CMEA Clinic/Conference
- **Associate Conductor, Ars Nova Singers** Aug. 2022–Present
Boulder, CO
 - Professional choral ensemble (Tom Morgan, founder, artistic director and conductor)
 - Conducted several pieces in concerts in Boulder, Denver, and Longmont
 - Lead rehearsal in absence of the conductor; lead sectionals on a regular basis
- **Instructor-of-Record, Summer Colorado ACDA Workshop (ED 589)** Summer 2022
0.5 and 1 graduate credit options, Adams State University
This responsibility fell under my duties as the Chair, Repertoire & Resources for Colleges & Universities for Colorado ACDA. I created two syllabi (1 and 0.5 credit options), communicated with those who enrolled for either credit option, provided feedback for and graded final projects, and sent grades to Adams State University. 19 educators were enrolled.
- **Festival Conductor-in-Residence (13 festivals)**
Each festival includes multiple choral ensembles and culminates with a public performance.
 - Colorado West Invitational Music Festival (Grand Junction) April 2022
 - Poudre School District Mixed Choir Festival (Fort Collins) April 2022
 - Poudre School District Women's Choir Festival (Fort Collins) Oct. 2021
 - Adams County High School Honor Choir (Westminster) Jan. 2020
 - Boulder Valley School District Honor Choir (Boulder) Sept. 2019
 - Poudre School District Middle School Honor Choir (Fort Collins) May 2019
 - St. Vrain School District High School Women's Honor Choir (Erie) Feb. 2019
 - Rocky Mountain Invitational Choral Festival (Arvada) Nov. 2018

- Choice City High School Choral Festival (Fort Collins) April 2018
- Denver Public Schools Choral Showcase (Denver) Mar. 2018
- Colorado ACDA Collegiate Honor Choir (University of Denver) Nov. 2017
- Poudre County Women's Chorus Festival (Fort Collins) Oct. 2017
- Castle View High School Women's Chorus Festival (Castle Rock) Oct. 2017

- **Faculty Conductor, University of Colorado Holiday Festival**
Conducting Activities Additional to my Normative Conducting/ Teaching
 - CU Boulder Holiday Festival Concert (4) Dec. 2022
 - Conducted the main stage chorus and the CU Treble Chorus
 - CU Boulder Holiday Festival Concert (4) Dec. 2021
 - On-Stage Chorus Master
 - CU Boulder Holiday Festival Concert (virtual) Dec. 2020
 - On-Stage Chorus Master
 - CU Boulder Holiday Festival Concerts (4) Dec. 2019
 - On-Stage Chorus Master
 - CU Boulder Holiday Festival Concerts (4) Dec. 2018
 - On-Stage Chorus Master
 - CU Boulder Holiday Festival Concerts (4) Dec. 2017

- **Faculty Conductor with Guest Clinician, Cheryl Anderson** Sept. 2021
CU Honor Reading Choir Festival
Conducting Activities Additional to my Normative Conducting/ Teaching

- **Chorus Master, Verdi's Messa da Requiem** Spring 2020
Conducting Activities Additional to my Normative Conducting/ Teaching
 - Collaboration with the University Symphony Orchestra (conductor, Gary Lewis).
 - A performance at Boettcher Concert Hall, scheduled for April 27, 2020, was canceled due to the Covid-19 pandemic

- **Faculty Conductor with Guest Clinician, William Powell** Sept. 2019
CU Honor Reading Choir Festival
Conducting Activities Additional to my Normative Conducting/ Teaching

- **Conductor, University Choir Tour Performances** March 2019
Conducting Activities Additional to my Normative Conducting/ Teaching
 - Cheyenne Mountain High School (Colorado Springs)
 - Discovery Canyon High School (Colorado Springs)
 - Bear Creek High School (Lakewood)
 - Mountain Range High School (Westminster)

- **Conductor, Play-Along with Midori** Nov. 2018
Conductor of a performance of *Dona Nobis Pacem* with world-renowned violinist, Midori, and 150 young musicians in the Greater Boulder Youth Orchestra at Naropa Performing Arts Center.

- **Conductor, Bernstein at 100 Festival** Oct. 2018
Leonard Bernstein's Chichester Psalms
Conducting Activities Additional to my Normative Conducting/ Teaching
 - A collaboration among the University Singers, University Choir, community members, graduate student instrumentalists, an organist, and boy soloist from the Colorado Children's Chorale.

- **Faculty Conductor with Guest Clinician, Janet Galván** Sept. 2018
CU Honor Reading Choir Festival
Conducting Activities Additional to my Normative Conducting/ Teaching

- **Conductor, University Choir Tour Performances** March 2018

Conducting Activities Additional to my Normative Conducting/ Teaching

- Legacy High School (Broomfield)
- East High School (Denver)
- Denver School of the Arts (Denver)
- Estes Park High School (Estes Park)
- Rampart High School (Colorado Springs)

CREATIVE WORK: SINGING (2017–present)

- **Professional Choral Singer (“Choral Pro”)** 2021–present
Ars Nova Singers (Boulder, CO)
 - Tom Morgan, founder, artistic director and conductor
- **Professional Choral Singer-in-Residence** 2016–present
Chorale Le Château (New York, NY) (Damien Sneed, founder, artistic director, conductor)
 - Performance of *The Ordering of Moses* (R. Nathaniel Dett)
The Riverside Church, New York, NY (June 2022)
 - Performances (3) of *The Abyssinian Mass* (Wynton Marsalis) with Chorale le Château and Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra as part of Lincoln Center’s White Light Festival at the Frederick P. Rose Hall (Lincoln Center), New York, NY (Nov. 2019)
 - Performance of *The Abyssinian Mass* (Marsalis) with Chorale le Château and Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra at the Chautauqua Institution, Chautauqua, NY (Aug. 2016)

SCHOLARLY WORK (2017–present)

Publications

- **Author, Contribution to a Book:** “Energy Cultivation and the Conductor: The Ancient Practice of Qigong” in *The Choral Conductor’s Companion*, Brian Winnie, editor. (Chicago: GIA Publications, 2020) pp. 198–199.
- **Contributing Author:** *Alternative Choral Resources: A Tool for Choral Directors During COVID-19*, Ryan Sullivan, editor (Southwestern ACDA publication, Fall 2020) pp. 6–7.

Lectures, Presentations, and Panel Discussions

National

- **Southwestern American Choral Directors Association Reading Session** Sept. 2021
Presenter, Collegiate & University Music Reading Session (virtual)
 - 60-minute presentation on 13 choral selections
- **The Classical Musician’s Network** Aug. 2021
Panelist, “**Conductors Connect: The Journey**”
 - This 90-minute panel was designed for conductors to discuss their experiences in the industry, as well as the unique journey pursuing choral, orchestral, and opera conducting careers.
- **National American Choral Directors Association National Conference** March 2021
Presenter, Collegiate & University Music Reading Session (virtual)
- **The Choral Commons (International Webinar)** Jan. 2021
Panelist, “Gather: Community Music Discussions; Envision 2021 Round Table”

- Topics of Discussion: national organization leadership; justice-centered choral advocacy, accountability, and strategic planning for the new year.
 - Panelists: Catherine Dehoney, President & CEO, Chorus America; Maria Guinand, VP, International Federation of Choral Music (IFCM); Mackie Spradley, President, National Association for Music Education (NAfME); Elizabeth Swanson, VP, National Collegiate Choral Organization (NCCO); and André Thomas, VP, American Choral Directors Association (ACDA).
- **SWACDA Interest Session Series (Virtual)** Oct. 2020
Lecturer. “We March Onward: A Fusion of Diverse Musical Idioms in the *Abyssinian Mass* by Wynton Marsalis”
 - I presented two 50-minute lectures
 - **National Collegiate Choral Organization (NCCO), Webinar** Aug. 2020
Moderator. “Becoming a More Racially-Inclusive Organization”
 - Series #2: *Collegiate Choral Programs in an Era of Upheaval*
 - 90-minute panel
 - **National Collegiate Choral Organization (NCCO) Webinar** April 2020
Moderator. “Now What? Job Searches, Tenure & Promotion, and other Considerations during the Corona Age”
 - Series #1: *Collegiate Choral Programs at the Onset of the Coronavirus*
 - 60-minute panel

Regional/ Local

- **Colorado Music Educators Association (CMEA) Clinic/Conference**
Moderator and Panelist. “*Strengthening Connections on Both Sides of the Coin: The Conductor as Singer—The Singer as Conductor*”
 - Vocal Music Session (peer-selected) Jan. 2023
 - I wrote the proposal and invited 4 other panelists (Colorado high school and collegiate conductors who also sing in professional choirs) to participate
- **Presenter, Colorado ACDA Summer Workshop** July 2022
 Collegiate & University Music Reading Session
 - Presented diverse repertoire selections to in-state colleagues. (Denver)
- **Pre-concert lecturer,** The King’s Singers performance in Macky Auditorium Dec. 2021
- **Colorado Music Educators Association Clinic/Conference (CMEA)** Jan. 2021
Presenter. “Rally, Reflect, and Reform: A Responsibility to End Systemic Racism in Academia”
 - Collegiate/ University Music Session (peer-selected)
- **Colorado Music Educators Association Clinic/Conference (CMEA)** Jan. 2018
Presenter. “Sustainability in the Music Career”
 - General Music Session (peer-selected)

SERVICE & OUTREACH (2017–present)

National

- **Vice President, Executive Board Member (Elected Position)** 2020–present
 National Collegiate Choral Organization (NCCO)

- **Chair**, National Board (50 members)
 - **Chair**, Mission & Vision in Governance Committee (2021–2022)
 - **Chair**, Mission, Vision and Principles Task Force (2020–2021)
 - **Co-Organizer**, NCCO's 9th biennial conference (January 2022)
 - **Co-organizer**, National Board's half-day anti-racism workshop (August 2020)
 - **Co-curator**, NCCO's national webinar series (two seasons, 9 webinars, 2020)
- **Chair, College and University Repertoire & Resources** 2020–present
Southwestern American Choral Directors Association (SWACDA)
 - **Peer-Reviewer, *The Choral Scholar*** 2020–2021
National Collegiate Choral Organization's Professional Journal
 - Vol. 59, No. 1 (*Spring 2021 issue*)
 - Vol. 58, No. 3 (*Fall 2020 issue*)
 - **Acting Chief Editor of Publications** June–Dec. 2019
National Collegiate Choral Organization (NCCO)
 - Chief Editor for NCCO's peer-reviewed journal, *The Choral Scholar*.
 - Curator of NCCO's selective choral music publication, the *NCCO Choral Series* (distributed by the ECS Publishing Group).
 - Oversaw the Poster Session, Choral Series Reading Session, and the Conducting Fellowship Program at the National Conference.
 - **Adjudicator, SWACDA Undergraduate Conducting Competition** March 2018
Southwestern American Choral Directors Association Conference, Oklahoma City, OK
 - **Secretary, Executive Board Member (Elected Position)** 2016–2017
National Collegiate Choral Organization (NCCO)
 - Co-planned and executed the NCCO's 7th biennial conference at Louisiana State University.
 - Maintained NCCO's database of national membership (1,000+ members)
 - Co-founder, Conducting Fellowship Program: I co-spearheaded the NCCO Conducting Fellowship Program.

Regional/ Local

- **Chair, College and University Repertoire & Resources** 2021–2022
Colorado ACDA
 - **Presenter**, Collegiate & University Repertoire Reading Session July 2022
 - **Founding Member, Anti-Racism Task Force** (2021–2022)
 - Monthly participation in ***Critical Conversations Around Race Initiative*** with consultants Drs. Anthony Trecek-King and Melanie Trecek-King.
 - An inward examination of Colorado ACDA (the organization and the culture) looking for infrastructures, policies, norms, procedures, etc. that foster and perpetuate racism in all its forms with the goal of making recommendations for change to the Colorado ACDA Board of Directors.

POSITIONS HELD PRIOR TO APPOINTMENT AT CU BOULDER

- ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF MUSIC, DIRECTOR OF CHOIRS** 2016–2017
- ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF MUSIC, DIRECTOR OF CHOIRS** 2010–2016
- Nyack College School of Music, Manhattan Campus (New York, NY)**

Nyack College is a 4-year liberal arts institution located in New York City's Lower Manhattan. The School of Music offers Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Arts degrees in music. It is one of the most diverse liberal arts colleges in the nation.

- **Conductor.** Nyack College Chorale. Highlights include conducting concerts at David Geffen Hall *Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts* in 2013, 2015, and 2017, plus concerts at the Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine, Greater Allen African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Cathedral of New York, and Trinity Church Wall Street. Spearheaded, planned, and executed domestic tours (Florida, Midwest, and Northeast).
- **Instructor.** Conducting, Rehearsal Methods, Music History, Aural Skills.

**ARTS ADMINISTRATOR; PROFESSIONAL ENSEMBLE MANAGER;
PROFESSIONAL CHORAL SINGER**

2014–2017

Manhattan Chorale (New York, NY) part-time

Manhattan Chorale is a 24-voice all-professional choral ensemble, which performs regularly at renowned halls including Carnegie Hall and Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center and tours to Boston, Chicago, and Washington DC. (Craig Arnold, conductor)

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF CHOIRS

2008–2010

University of Chicago (Chicago, IL)

Conductor. University of Chicago Women's Chorale

ADJUNCT INSTRUCTOR, CHORAL DIRECTOR

2009–2010

North Park University (Chicago, IL)

Conductor. North Park University Women's Chorus and Chamber Choir

GUEST FACULTY CONDUCTOR-IN-RESIDENCE

Spring 2009

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

Guest Conductor-in-Residence. Roosevelt University Women's Chorus

GRADUATE CONDUCTOR

2006–2008

Northwestern University (Evanston, IL)

Conductor. Northwestern University Women's Chorus

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF MUSIC

2005–2006

Ithaca College School of Music (Ithaca, NY)

Sabbatical replacement for Lawrence Doeblor (fall) and Janet Galván (spring)

Conductor. Ithaca College Chorus, Women's Chorus, Madrigal Singers

Instructor. Conducting 1, Conducting 2, Vocal Pedagogy

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Choral Directors Association (ACDA); Colorado American Choral Directors Association (COACDA); National Association for Music Education (NAfME); National Collegiate Choral Organization (NCCO); Southwestern American Choral Directors Association (SWACDA)