

KATY MCNIFF

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Curriculum Vitae

EDUCATION

M.M Music Education, Secondary Choral Emphasis **2016-2019**
Arizona State University
Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts

M.M Choral Conducting **2013-2015**
University of Arizona
Fred Fox School of Music, Tucson, AZ
Additional focus in Music Education and Opera Scenes Instruction

B.M Historical Musicology with Voice Principal **2007-2011**
University of Michigan
School of Music, Theatre and Dance, Ann Arbor, MI
Bachelors of Music in Musicology
Principal Instrument: Voice
Minor in Medieval Studies
Honors College Study Abroad, St Peter's College, Oxford University

CONDUCTING INSTRUCTORS

Jason Thompson	Arizona State University	2016-2017
Bruce Chamberlain	University of Arizona	2013-2015
Elizabeth Schauer	University of Arizona	2013-2015
Michael Mitchell	Oakland University	2011-2012
Jerry Blackstone	University of Michigan	2010-2011
Paul Rardin	University of Michigan	2009-2011

VOICE/PIANO INSTRUCTORS

Grayson Hirst	Voice	University of Arizona	2013-2014
Carmen Pelton	Voice	University of Michigan	2010-2011

Stephen West	Voice	University of Michigan	2007-2010
Sipkje Price	Piano and Organ	University of Michigan	2007-2010

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Leman Academy of Excellence, Tucson AZ **2018-Present**

General Music (Grades K-8)

Music History and Appreciation (Middle School)

Honor Choirs (Middle School)

Class Choral and Instrumental Ensembles (K-8)

Classroom General Music (K-5)

Arizona State University, Tempe AZ **2016-2017**

Choral Methods Instructor Assistant and Guest Lecturer

Arizona Music Educators Association All-State Choir Auditions, Tucson AZ **2015-Present**

Regional Solo and Sight Reading Adjudicator, Tucson AZ

Tucson Unified Public Schools, Tucson AZ **2015-2018**

Arts Integration Specialist (Choir and General Music)

Wheeler Elementary School

Banks Elementary School

Opera Teaching Artist-OMA/Fine Arts Department

Borman Elementary School-US Air Force Base

Cavett Elementary School

Cragin Elementary School

Howell Elementary School

Long-Term Music Substitute Teacher

Audivi Vocem Summer Choral Institute, Tucson and Tempe, AZ **2015-2017**

Founder and Lead Instructor

Tucson Choir and Orchestra

7 Auditioned Undergraduate Conductors

60 Volunteer Singers and Orchestra Members

Tempe Chamber Choir

6 Auditioned Undergraduate Conductors

35 Volunteer Chamber Singers

Mountain Vista Unitarian Universalist Congregation **2015-2017**

Lifelong Learning Course Instructor

Survey of the History of Sacred Music in Western Culture
Survey of History of Sacred Music in Non-Western Culture

Fred Fox School of Music, University of Arizona, Tucson AZ

2013-2015

Instructor, Opera Scenes Undergraduate Course

Instructor's Assistant, Undergraduate Choral Conducting Techniques

Instructor, University of Arizona Choirs

Recital Choir (Spring 2015)

Choir of 20-30 singers, SATB

Kantorei (Fall 2014)

Chamber undergraduate choir of 20 singers, SATB

University Singers (Spring 2014)

Large undergraduate ensemble of 50-60 singers, SATB

Honor Choir (Fall 2013)

Treble undergraduate choir of 20-30 singers, SSAA

Deborah's Stage Door School of the Performing Arts, Rochester MI

2011-2013

Director of Music and Drama

Acting and Musical Theatre Course Instructor

Voice and Piano Lessons Instructor

Beginner's Show Choir (6-8 members)

Jr. Show Choir (7-11 members)

Sr. Show Choir (8-10 members)

ADDITIONAL CONDUCTING EXPERIENCE

Christ Presbyterian Church, Tucson AZ

2018-2020

Director of Music

Traditional Service Choir, 35 members

Handbell Choir, 15 members

Children's Choir, 10 members

Leman Academy of Excellence, Tucson AZ

2018-Present

Choir Director and General Music Teacher

Honor Choir Director

Grade-Level and Class-Level Choral and Instrumental Ensembles Director

Arizona Rose Opera Company, Tucson AZ

2017-2018

Chamber Opera Conductor

Arizona State University Gospel Choir, Tempe AZ

2017

Guest Conductor

Tucson Masterworks Chorale, Tucson AZ

2015-2016

Assistant Director

150 member ensemble, SATB

Mountain Vista Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Tucson AZ

2014-2017

Director of Music

Choir Director (16 member church choir, SATB)

Instructor of lifelong learning course in Music History

Service and Liturgical Music Coordinator

Bisbee Community Chorus, Bisbee AZ

2014-2015

Interim Artistic Director

42 member volunteer Choir, SATB

University of Arizona Opera Productions, Tucson AZ

2013-2015

Chorus Master

Opera Scenes Instructor and Conductor

Choral Director (see Education)

16 member Opera Chorus

12 member Scenes Instructor Course

Voice Majors, SATB

Church of the Painted Hills United Church of Christ, Tucson AZ

2013-2014

Interim Director of Music

Cantor

Choir Director (18 member church choir, SATB)

Thompson Street Opera Company, Louisville KY

2014

Opera Conductor, contracted for the Spring Season

“Emily, by Eva Kendrick

“Requiem for the Living”, by Ronnie Reshef

Huron Hills Baptist Church, Ann Arbor MI

2010-2012

Choir Director

25 member volunteer Choir, SSAA

University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance, Ann Arbor MI

2010-2011

Conductor and Founder

Undergraduate Choral Conducting Workshop Ensemble

32 member volunteer Choir, SATB

DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

Leman Academy of Excellence, Tucson AZ <i>Music Director and Song Arranger</i> <i>“Carols at the Bazaar”, an eight concert extravaganza</i> <i>“Voices of Light”, Leman Academy Honor Choir Concert</i>	2019
Christ Presbyterian Church, Tucson AZ <i>Music Coordinator and Preparing Conductor</i> <i>Messiah Part 1 by G.F Handel</i> <i>Full choir, full orchestra and soloists</i>	2019
Christ Presbyterian Church, Tucson AZ <i>Conductor, Orchestra Recruiter</i> <i>Palm Sunday Cantata, “The Body of Christ” arr. Pepper Choplin</i> <i>Full choir and full orchestra</i>	2019
Leman Academy of Excellence, Tucson AZ <i>Conductor, Song Arranger, Composer and Script Author</i> <i>“A Musical History Tour”, “Storms and Blessings”, Class Concerts</i> <i>Honor Choir, Middle School Musical and General Class Ensembles</i>	2019
Christ Presbyterian Church, Tucson AZ <i>Conductor, Orchestra Recruiter</i> <i>Christmas Sunday Cantata “Let There Be Christmas” arr. Joseph Martin</i> <i>Full Choir and Orchestra</i>	2019
Tucson Unified School District, Wheeler Elementary School, Tucson AZ <i>Conductor, Song Arranger and Composer</i> <i>Winter and Spring Vocal and Instrumental Ensemble Class Concerts</i>	2017-2018
Audivi Vocem Summer Choral Institute: A Celebration of Vivaldi, Tucson AZ <i>Summer Institute Director and Instructor</i> <i>Tucson and Tempe Orchestra and Choir Ensembles</i> <i>Guest Instructors: Jerry Blackstone, James Jordan and Jason Harris</i>	2017
Tucson Unified School District Performing Arts Department, Tucson AZ <i>Senior Team Member, Student Opera Productions</i> <i>Director of ten “mini operas” performed by our Elementary Classes</i> <i>Borman Elementary (US Air Force Base)</i>	2017

Cavett Elementary
Cragin Elementary
Howell Elementary

Tucson Masterworks Chorale Spring Concert, “Mozart and Handel”, Tucson AZ 2016

Conductor

Zadok the Priest with Chorus and Full Orchestra

Assistant Conductor

Mozart Requiem

Audivi Vocem Conductors Choir Summer Institute: Faure and Britten, Tucson AZ 2016

Summer Institute Director and Instructor

Tucson Choral Ensemble

Guest Instructors: Arian Khaefi and Jaclyn Johnson

Tucson Masterworks Chorale, Tucson AZ 2015

Conductor

“Ching a Ring Chaw” and “The Lark” by Copeland

Audivi Vocem Conductors Choir Summer Institute: The Profane and Sacred, Tucson AZ 2015

Summer Institute Director and Instructor

Tucson Choral Ensemble

Bisbee Community Chorus, Bisbee AZ 2014

Interim Artistic Director

“A Spring Fling” Choral Concert

University of Arizona Fred Fox School of Music, Tucson AZ 2014-2015

Course Instructor and Director

Select opera scenes from 21st century opera

Undergraduate Opera Workshop (15 students)

Bisbee Community Chorus and Tucson Symphony Orchestra, Bisbee AZ 2014

Preparing Chorus Conductor

“TSO in Bisbee” Concert

Deborah’s Stage Door School for the Performing Arts, Rochester Hills MI 2012

Music Director, Orchestra Pit Conductor

“Grease!” (33 members, ages 8-19)

Deborah’s Stage Door School for the Performing Arts, Rochester Hills MI 2012

Director

“The Breakfast Club” Advanced Acting Class (ages 12-17)

Deborah’s Stage Door School for the Performing Arts, Rochester Hills MI

2012

Director and Musical Arranger

“Annie Jr” Musical Theatre Workshop (ages 6-11)

Huron Hill Church, Ann Arbor MI

2011

Choir Director

Christmas Cantata “Nun Komm der Heiden Heiland” BWV 62, J.S. Bach

Full Chorus and Orchestra

Deborah’s Stage Door School for the Performing Arts, Rochester Hills MI

2011

Music Director, Orchestra Pit Conductor

“Charlie and the Chocolate Factory” Full-length musical (ages 5-18)

Deborah’s Stage Door School for the Performing Arts, Rochester Hills MI

2011

Director

“The Lion, The Witch & the Wardrobe” (ages 4-18)

ADDITIONAL GUEST CLINICIANS, AND MASTERCLASSES

Lecturer, Humanism in Early Sacred Music,

2020

St Mark’s Catholic Church, Oro Valley AZ

Vocal Clinician, The Aging Female Voice,

2020

St. Mark’s Catholic Church, Oro Valley AZ

Lecturer, The Rise of English Harmony,

2018

Oklahoma State College, Altus OK

Lecturer, The Adult Choral Voice,

2017

Arizona State University, Tempe AZ

Conducting Clinician, Clarifying Gesture,

2015-2017

Audivi Vocem Summer Choral Institute, Tucson AZ

Lecturer, How to Prepare a Choral Score,

2015-2017

Audivi Vocem Summer Choral Institute, Tucson AZ

Vocal Clinician, Shaping the Sound,

2015

Flowing Wells Middle School, Tucson AZ

Vocal Clinician and Lecturer, The Adult Choral Voice,

2014

First Presbyterian Church, Jackson MI

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Music Appreciation in Secondary Settings through Kinesthetic Connections-Curriculum	Leman Academy of Excellence, Tucson AZ	2020
The Unseen Disorder in the Specials Classroom: Female ADHD students and Music-Presentation	Leman Academy of Excellence, Tucson AZ	2019
Integrating Music into K-5 Science-Curriculum	Leman Academy of Excellence, Tucson AZ	2018
Integrating Music into K-5 ELA-Curriculum	Tucson Unified School District, Tucson AZ	2017
Hear Us: Transgender Vocalists in Classical Music-Paper	Arizona State University Tempe, AZ	2018
Messiah and the American Community Chorus-Paper	Arizona State University Tempe, AZ	2017
Lowell Mason and the use of Pestalozzian Theory-Paper	Arizona State University Tempe, AZ	2017
Charlene Archibeque-Our First Female DMA-Paper	Arizona State University Tempe, AZ	2016
Survey of Western Sacred Choral Music-Lifelong Learning	Mountain Vista Unitarian Universalist Congregation Tucson, AZ	2016
Survey of Global Sacred Music-Lifelong Learning	Mountain Vista Unitarian Universalist Congregation Tucson, AZ	2015
Madrigals of Gesualdo & Monteverdi-Presentation	University of Arizona Tucson, AZ	2015
Isorhythmic Motet from Machaut to Dufay-Presentation	University of Arizona Tucson, AZ	2015
Choral Symphonies: Berlioz and Juliet-Presentation	University of Arizona Tucson, AZ	2014
Salient Style Features of the Mozart Requiem-Presentation	University of Arizona Tucson, AZ	2014

VOCAL ENSEMBLE EXPERIENCE

Vox Virago Women's Ensemble, Founding Member	Tucson, AZ	2017-Present
St. Mark's Apostolic Catholic Church Schola	Oro Valley, AZ	2019
Arizona State University Gospel Choir	Tempe, AZ	2016-2017

St. Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church Schola	Jackson, M	2015
Helios Ensemble	Tucson, AZ	2014-2015
University of Arizona, Arizona Choir	Tucson, AZ	2013-2015
University of Arizona Collegium Early Music Ensemble	Tucson, AZ	2013-2015
University of Arizona Recital Choir	Tucson, AZ	2013-2015
Tucson Symphony Orchestra Chorus, Alto Section Leader	Tucson, AZ	2013-2014
University Musical Society Chamber Choir	Ann Arbor, MI	2012-2013
University Musical Society Choral Union	Ann Arbor, MI	2007-2013
University of Michigan Chamber Choir	Ann Arbor, MI	2010-2011
Huron Hills Church, Alto Section Leader	Ann Arbor, MI	2010-2011
University of Michigan Opera Choruses	Ann Arbor, MI	2008-2011
Audivi Vocem Early Vocal Ensemble	Ann Arbor, MI	2008-2011
Our Lady of Mt Carmel Catholic Church Schola	Wyandotte, MI	2008-2010
University of Michigan Orpheus Singers	Ann Arbor, MI	2007-2008
First Presbyterian Church of Ypsilanti, Alto Section Leader	Ypsilanti, MI	2007-2008
Oakland Community College Chorale	Farmington, MI	2005-2006
Oakland University Singers	Rochester, MI	2000-2002

NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL PERFORMANCES

University of Arizona, Arizona Choir	2014
Dvořak Stabat Mater, Vienna, Austria and Prague, Czech Republic	
University Musical Society Chamber Choir & Detroit Symphony Orchestra	2013
Charles Ives Symphony No. 4, Carnegie Hall, New York, NY	
University Musical Society Chamber Choir & The Kings Singers	2013
Various Selections, Ann Arbor, MI	
University Musical Society Choral Union & the University of Michigan Choirs	2013
Milhaud's Oresteian Trilogy, Naxos Label (Grammy Nominated, 2015)	
University Musical Society Choral Union, Detroit Symphony Orchestra	2010
Beethoven Symphony No. 9, Detroit, MI	
University Musical Society Choral Union with Michael York	2010
Walton's Henry V, Detroit, MI	
University Musical Society Choral Union, Detroit Symphony Orchestra	2010
Mozart's Requiem, Detroit, MI	
University Musical Society Choral Union, Detroit Symphony Orchestra	2008
Orff's Carmina Burana, Detroit, MI	

MASTERCLASSES AND CONFERENCES

American Choral Directors National Conference	Kansas City, MS	2019
University of Michigan Choral Conducting Symposium	Ann Arbor, MI	2018
Arizona ACDA State Conference	Mesa, AZ	2017
Arizona State University Strings Pedagogy Masterclass	Tempe, AZ	2017

American Choral Directors National Conference	Minneapolis, MN	2017
Arizona ACDA Fall Symposium	Tempe, AZ	2016
American Choral Directors National Conference	Salt Lake City, UT	2015
University of Michigan Choral Conducting Symposium	Ann Arbor, MI	2014
Arizona ACDA State Conference	Paradise Valley, AZ	2014
Chorus America Orchestral Conducting Masterclass	New York City, NY	2014
University of Michigan Choral Conducting Symposium	Ann Arbor, MI	2013
Archdiocese of Detroit Gregorian Chant Intensive Study	Detroit, MI	2013
American Choral Directors National Conference	Dallas, TX	2013
University of Michigan Conference: Young Male Singers	Ann Arbor, MI	2012
University of Michigan Choral Conducting Symposium	Ann Arbor, MI	2012
American Choral Directors National Conference	Chicago, IL	2011
American Choral Directors National Conference	Oklahoma City, OK	2009

ACADEMIC HONORS AND AWARDS

Leman Academy of Excellence Recipient of Full Proposal 301 Performance Based Stipend	2018
Tucson Unified School District Recipient of Full Proposal 301 Performance Based Stipend	2014
University of Arizona School of Music Graduate Scholarship Recipient	2013
University of Arizona School of Music Graduate Scholarship Recipient	2010
University of Michigan Non-Traditional Undergraduate Scholarship	2009
University of Michigan Non-Traditional Undergraduate Scholarship	2008
University of Michigan Honors College Study Abroad, accepted member	2008
University of Michigan School of Music Dean's List	2007
Oakland Community College Dean's List, Farmington Hills MI	2006
Inducted into Phi Theta Kappa, Oakland Community College, Farmington Hills MI	2006
Oakland Community College Dean's List, Farmington Hills MI	

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND CERTIFICATION

CPR Certified	2016-Present
Level 1 Fingerprint Clearance Card-Arizona Department of Public Safety	2015-Present
State of Arizona Substitute Teacher Certification	2015-Present
Teacher Certification Pending	2019
Praxis Exam II (5113) Score 174 (State Requirement 162)	2019
NES Music Exam (National Evaluation Series) Score 280 (State Requirement 220)	2019
MET Music Exam (National Evaluation Series) Score: Passed Satisfactorily	2019
NES Professional Knowledge Elementary (National Evaluation Series) Score 265	2019

REFERENCES

- Dr. Sandra Stauffer** *Professor of Music Education and Senior Associate Dean
Arizona State University, Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts
sandra.stauffer@asu.edu, 480.727.7664*
- Dr. Margaret Schmidt** *Assistant Director, School of Music
Arizona State University, Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts
marg.schmidt@asu.edu, 480.965.8277*
- Mr. Nathan Edwards** *Principal,
Leman Academy of Excellence, East Tucson
nathan.edwards@lemanacademy.org, 520.526.0754*
- Dr. Hugo Vera** *Executive Director
Lawrence Opera Theatre, Lawrence KS
hugovera@hotmail.com, 785-218-6039*
- Dr. Jerry Blackstone** *Former Chair of Conducting and Director of Choral Activities
Professor Emeritus
University of Michigan School of Music, Ann Arbor MI
blacksto@umich.edu, 734.763.6172*
- Ron Phares** *Church Minister
North Shore Unitarian Universalists, Vancouver Canada
rev.phares@northshoreunitarians.ca, (please emails only)*
- Thomas Lewis** *Program Coordinator, Department of Fine and Performing Arts
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