

Education

- Wayne State University (Detroit, MI)** 2017-2020
- M.M. in Music Composition, Thesis in Music Tech (Weather Data Sonification and Max/MSP)
- Michigan State University (East Lansing, MI)** 2007-2011
- B.A. in Music Education, Jazz Studies Minor, Certified to teach K-12 Music Education (JX)

Teaching Experience

- Virtual Music Teaching Artist (Great Bend Center for Music, Union, WA)** 2021-2022
- Served as the lead teacher for students in the HighKeyKids virtual music program (Grade 6-12) to embody the non-profit's mission of using music as a vehicle for community transformation
 - Delivered student-centric lesson plans that helped strengthen a sense of virtual community, nurture student curiosity, and provide relevant music education experience
 - Constructed new research-based curriculums for innovative virtual music education classes focused on community development (Family Ukulele), 21st century technology skills (Digital Audio Production) and student interest (Video Game Music)
 - Established a rigorous curriculum for a general music course for middle/high school students to learn ear training, music literacy, sight reading, rhythm/beat, meter, intervals, and keyboard technique
 - Guided students in creating musical works featured in four end-of-term virtual recitals, including video game music soundtracks and collaborative songwriting recordings
- Freelance Virtual Music/Technology Educator** 2020-2022
- Collaborated with the Pianoberries Music Studio (Brookline, MA) to teach two virtual 8 week sessions and create an early childhood music curriculum (ages 3-5) using a blend of methodologies including piano technique, music composition, Music Learning Theory, Orff, Laban, and Dalcroze
 - Taught as an elementary STEM/coding instructor with the company Create and Learn (Palo Alto, CA) using a Scratch-based coding curriculum designed to teach young students the fundamentals of code
 - Developed a video game music composition curriculum and a digital audio production curriculum to teach virtual classes on the platform Outschool
 - Established my own private music lessons studio to virtually teach students of all ages in a variety of subjects (music composition, video game music, digital audio production, trumpet, ukulele, piano)
- K-6th General Music Educator (Warren Woods Public Schools, Warren, MI)** 2016-2020
- Implemented a K-6th grade music curriculum to over 500 students that emphasized stylized movement, steady beat, vocal/instrumental performance, music composition, and diversity/inclusion (Detroit-based hip-hop musicians and women/minority classical composers)
 - Reinvented my music curriculum during COVID into a virtual "podcast lesson" format for my students to learn concepts such as music history, bird song, and the sounds of climate change
 - Directed after school activities, including a 40 member after school percussion ensemble and a K-5th "informance" concert to connect parents to the learning opportunities in the music classroom
- 6th-8th Grade Band Director (Howell Public Schools, Howell, MI)** 2012-2016
- Coordinated a calendar of 20 events per year for 200 students 6th-8th grade, including concert performances, MSBOA band festivals, music composition recitals, and school wide talent shows
 - Promoted student-led learning and audience engagement during concerts by having student speakers, student submitted artwork, student composers, student conductors, and a "you pick the song contest" for audience members
 - Taught first time woodwind/brass/percussion 6th grade students the fundamentals of tone production, posture, breathing, note reading, and instrument care

Awards and Distinctions

- *Featured Artist/Panelist at Earth Day Art Model (2020-22)*: Selected as one of four panelists for the discussion “Art-Science Integration through Data Sonification: A Window into Environmental Change”; chosen to showcase my artistic work for a 24 hour telematic festival celebrating the intersection of arts/sciences
- *Five-Time Presenter at the Michigan Music Conference (2015-2020)*: Created excellent presentation skills to deliver unique yearly conference presentations to professional music colleagues across the state
- *Artist in Residence at Great Smoky Mountains National Park and Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park (2018-19)*: Selected from thousands of applicants to represent the parks artistically and lead visitor education workshops; used a Zoom H4 recording device and the computer software Max/MSP to manipulate the natural sounds of the parks into new sound environments
- *Graduate Music Conference Presentations at the University of Toronto, Kansas City University-Lawrence, and Colloquium Music Scholarship at a Distance (2018-20)*: “Leveling Up The Symphony Orchestra: Andrew Norman’s Play and Video Game Narrative Structure”
- *Farmington Hills STEAM Academy Grant Recipient (2019)*: Collaborated with a local middle school band/orchestra program to implement music technology-based lessons, video game music composition activities, and composer/sound exploration workshops
- *Fund for Teachers Fellowship (2016)*: Selected through a rigorous application process to create a custom professional development opportunity; chronicled the transmission of music, culture, and history along the highway Route 66 and implemented lesson plans in the classroom based on this research; composed and premiered the work *Route 66 Fanfare* for young wind ensemble

Skills and Other Experience

Technology Skills

- Proficient at using a suite of learning management software (Google Classroom, PowerSchool, Schoology, Seesaw, MusicFirst) and communication tools (Slack, Discord, G Suite, Outlook, Skype, Zoom, Microsoft Teams, Dropbox)
- Fluent with digital music technology (Sibelius, Dorico, Soundtrap, Garageband, Audacity, Max/MSP) to create professionally notated musical compositions and high quality recording studio projects
- Designed educational software to teach music/science lessons to young students, including a live pitch tracker and a sound wave frequency generator

Workplace Skills

- Delivered quality educational instruction to as many as 500 different students per week using differentiated lesson planning and musical concepts geared towards student interest
- Managed classrooms and large musical ensembles of up to 60 students at a time (both virtually and in-person) using effective leadership, clearly communicated goals, and established routines
- Coordinated a calendar of 20 student events per year, including concert performances, band festivals, field trips, school curriculum nights, recitals, and talent shows
- Collaborated with professional colleagues to plan joint music education conference sessions and develop music curriculum that met state/national music education standards
- Nurtured my pedagogical knowledge by participating in bi-monthly professional development meetings, district wide educational trainings, and various seminars and conferences
- Utilized clear communication skills through emails, newsletters, and in-person meetings to develop a strong rapport with a team of students, teaching staff, and administrators