

ELVIE A. WILLIAMS

Tennessee State University
3500 John A. Merritt Boulevard
Nashville, Tennessee 37209
Email: ewilli82@tnstate.edu
Phone: (615) 871-3997

“Educator, Vocalist, Collaborative Pianist, Conductor, Songwriter”

EDUCATION

M.M. in Vocal Performance (Baritone)* (2015). Belmont University, Nashville, Tennessee.

B.M. in Vocal Performance (2012). Westminster Choir College, Princeton, New Jersey.

* *Graduate Assistant with the Belmont Opera Workshop*

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

2016-present *Adjunct Professor of Voice*, Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN
Courses: Applied Voice, Music Appreciation, French & German Vocal Diction

- Engage in high-quality instruction in a diverse, inclusive and student-centered environment, working with students with diverse learning styles, cultures, identities, and life-experiences.
- Maintain an applied voice studio of a maximum 15 students and teach Music Appreciation classes of approximately 30 students per section. Organize and deliver properly sequenced content to students, while adhering to departmental requirements.
- Inform students of the anatomy and physiology of the voice, teaching proper techniques for classical, musical theater, and commercial styles to build proficiency and repertoire across each genre.
- Hold students to high standards, mentoring them towards excellent service in their chosen field. Prepare students for departmental juries, national competitions, auditions, and recitals.
- Keep appropriate grade and attendance records and meet grade submission deadlines. Apply strong communication, organizational, and interpersonal skills, and a collaborative approach to working with students and colleagues.
- Work in partnership with Blue Opera Initiative program to bring diverse programming to the music department's list of annual events.

2016-present *Collaborative Pianist and Coach*, Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN

- Provide supplementary musical reinforcement for students in various instructors' voice studios.
- Coach students in musicality, IPA fundamentals and proper diction in English, Italian, French, and German.
- Prepare and accompany students in jury exams and applied studio lessons.

ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2015-present ***Private Vocal Instructor***, LV Studio (self-owned), Nashville, TN

- Actively oversee private studio of approximately ten (10) students, including working professionals in musical theatre, commercial, and operatic fields.
- Foster the acquisition of positive individual growth by providing a foundation of proper vocal technique.
- Cultivate students' language, artistic, and musicality skills. Proficient and advanced ability to accompany students' lessons. Prepare students for national competitions, regional and Actor's Equity Auditions (theater), commercial EP releases, and recitals.

2012 ***Voice and Piano Instructor***, Soumas Heritage School of Music, Plainfield, NJ

- Developed bi-weekly lesson plans tailored to each piano or voice student. Taught in various languages.
- Instructed students in a practical approach to healthy singing, rooted in the *bel canto* singing style.
- Taught and informed students of the anatomical structure of the body and its relationship to the voice.

2011 ***Assistant Instructor of Voice, Piano and Music Theory***, Rider University, Equal Opportunity Program (EOP), Lawrenceville, NJ

- Provided tutoring for incoming freshmen in voice, piano, music theory, and ear training.
- Worked with students on their vocal repertoire primarily taken from the *Twenty-Four Italian Songs and Arias* songbook.
- Instructed students in proper diction and performance techniques.

2009 ***Founder and Instructor***, Our Lady of Sorrows Voice and Piano Studio, Jersey City, New Jersey

- Founded and developed a voice and piano studio from the ground up in two separate locations utilizing urban resources.
- Provided instructions in voice and piano free of charge to members of the congregation and within the inner city area.
- Adjusted pedagogical methods to accommodate a variety of ages. Students ranged from children (age 7) to adults.

CHORAL CONDUCTING

2015-present ***Minister of Music and Choir Director***, Wesley Foundation, Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN

- Oversee all aspects of music ministry development: auditioning, organizing the band, coordinating service and musical programming (i.e. *Living Legends* annual event), producing, and coordinating readings and carols for Holy Week and outdoor worship services.
- Conduct weekly choral rehearsals and review sessions.

2012 *Festival Chorus Director*, Our Lady of Sorrows Church, Jersey City, New Jersey

- Worked in partnership with the head pastoral associate and church leaders to produce a concert between two parishes.
- Recruited and trained parishioners to join choir, fostering amateur singers for performance.
- Oversaw all press and publication for concerts. Hired singers and musical professionals.

2009 *Director of Music and Organist*, Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Jersey City, New Jersey

- Supervised the music ministry for all church services.
- Conducted a full SATB choir preparing them for weekly services.
- Cantered in multiple languages and planned programming for seasonal services.

THEATRE

Peter Ensemble	“The Snowy Day and Other Stories”	Nashville Children’s Theater	2017
	“Fredrick Douglass: The Making of an American Prophet”	Traveling production	2015
Cece <i>Dreamgirls</i>	“Soul of Broadway” (scene)	Wilson County Civic League	2015
Seaweed <i>Hairspray</i>	“Soul of Broadway” (scene)	Wilson County Civic League	2015
Youth	“Passing Strange”	Street Theater Company	2014

OPERA

Men’s Ensemble	<i>Pirates of Penzance</i>	Nashville Opera	2015
Men’s Ensemble	<i>La Cenerentola</i>	Nashville Opera	2013
Don Basilio	<i>The Marriage of Figaro</i>	Belmont Opera Theatre	2013
Men’s Ensemble	<i>The Barber of Seville</i>	Nashville Opera	2014

CONCERTS

Bach: Cantata 82	Music City Baroque	Nashville, TN
Dubois: “ <i>Seven Last Words of Christ</i> ”	Princeton Chamber Orchestra	Princeton, NJ
Mahler: <i>Symphony No. 8</i>	Philadelphia Orchestra	Kimmel Center
Mahler: <i>Symphony No. 8</i>	Nashville Symphony Orchestra	Schermerhorn
Mahler: <i>Symphony No. 8</i>	Staatskapelle Berlin Orchestra	Carnegie Hall
Mahler: <i>Symphony No. 2</i>	New York Philharmonic	Lincoln Center
Mahler: <i>Symphony No. 2</i>	Staatskapelle Berlin Orchestra	Carnegie Hall
“ <i>Die Erste Walpurgisnacht</i> ”	New York Philharmonic	Lincoln Center
Beethoven: <i>Symphony No. 9</i>	Bavarian Radio Symphony Orch.	Carnegie Hall
John Adams: “El Nino”	New York Philharmonic	Carnegie Hall
Beethoven: <i>Symphony No. 9</i>	New Jersey Symphony Orchestra	NJPAC
Brahms: <i>Ein deutsches Requiem</i>	Dresden Staatskapelle Orchestra	Lincoln Center
Beethoven: <i>Symphony No. 9</i>	Korean Broadcast Symphony	United Nations NY

INVERSION VOCAL ENSEMBLE

Inaugural Memorial Service for Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King 2016
National Civil Rights Museum, Memphis, TN

Drawing Room Concert Series commemorating William Edmonson 2015
National Museum of African American Music, Nashville, TN

Roland Hayes Committee Recital 2015
Harris Arts Center, Calhoun, GA

Nashville Symphony Free Day of Music 2014
Schermmerhorn Symphony Center, Laura Turner Concert Hall, Nashville, TN

TELEVISION & FILM

“Christmas at Belmont 2014” Chorale PBS/ Universal Television 2014
“Body, Mind, Spirit, Voice” DVD Newark Boys Bolthead Communications Chorus 2003

LIVE COMMERCIAL MUSIC FEATURES

Featured Artist	Music City Connection (Shannon Sanders)	The Back Corner	2018
Featured Artist	Natural Soul Experience Concert Series	Venue 109	2017
Featured Artist	Natural Soul Experience Concert Series	Moguls Barber Lounge	2017
Featured Artist	Sentiments of Love Concert Series	Café Coco	2016
Featured Artist	Sentiments of Love Concert Series	The Cave	2015

TEACHERS

Sharon Sweet
Faith Esham
Harold Evans
Dr. Jennifer Coleman
Corey Mckern

COACHES

J.J Penna
Deborah Scurto Davis
Rachelle Jonk

DIRECTORS

Jon Royal
Macus Hummon

CONDUCTORS

Pierre Boulez
Gilbert Kaplan
Kurt Masur
John Adams
Daniel Harding
Dr. Joe Miller
Dr. Jeffery Ames
Dr. Andre Thomas
Giancarlo Guerrero

SONGWRITING CREDITS

Millennial Faith EP	Byron Harvey	“Pick Me Up”	2016
Unscripted EP	Elvie Williams	(anticipated release)	May 2018

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

National Association of Teachers of Singers (NATS)
Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity of America (PMA)

REFERENCES

Dr. Kristi Whitten
Professor of Music
Artistic Director of Belmont Opera Program
Belmont University
Nashville, TN
email: kristi.whitten@belmont.edu
phone: (615) 460-8216

Alicia Lark Fuss
Director of Education
Nashville Children's Theatre
Nashville, TN
email: alicia.fuss@adjuncts.belmont.edu
phone: (615) 252-4668

William G. Crimm
Adjunct Professor of Voice
Tennessee State University
Nashville, TN
email: kaskas@comcast.net
phone: (615) 860-1961

Rev. Michelle Morton
Campus Minister & Executive Director
Tennessee State University Wesley Foundation
Nashville, TN
email: revmortonwesley@comcast.net
phone: (615) 818-6312

Dr. Darryl G. Nettles
Professor & Coordinator of Vocal Area
Tennessee State University
Nashville, TN
email: dnettlles@tnstate.edu
phone: (615) 887-8049