

Amy Riffle-Kouyeas

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Education

Master of Music: Piano Performance with specialization in Piano Pedagogy. West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV. May, 2004. Cum Laude
Mentorship with Christine Kefferstan and Connie Arrau-Sturm

Bachelor of Science: Music Performance (Piano). Frostburg State University, Frostburg, MD. May 1999.

Mentorship and piano and organ lessons with Joan DeVee Dixon. Voice training with Katheryn Sincell-Corwell and Alan Emerick

Music Ministry

Music Leader, Peace Lutheran Church, Monroe, December 2018-Present

At Peace Lutheran Church, I choose music for our blended worship every week, create the powerpoint slides, lead rehearsals, and schedule singers (we've got limited musicians, but plenty of singers!). During the pandemic I spent a lot of time pre-recording music for services. We've recently started back to in-person services with worship happening outside. I am also responsible for sharing lyrics and all information with the church secretary to help make sure bulletins are accurate.

Organist/Pianist Co-Director of Music, Auburn United Methodist Church, Auburn, WA. June 2016-December 2017

My main duties at Auburn UMC were piano and organ focused: I played the organ and piano during our traditional service for hymns, preludes, postludes, and other service music as well as accompanying our Chancel Choir. In addition, I also mentored the young, new Director of Music/Choir Director- assisting with worship and rehearsal planning. When I was available, I also sang with the Praise Team during our Contemporary Worship.

Director of Music, Mountain View United Methodist Church, Kingsport, TN. May 2013-August 2015

I oversaw the entire music program which includes: leading the Praise Team for our contemporary service, directing the Chancel Choir, and playing the organ for our traditional service and providing music for our Wednesday evening worship services. I also direct the Cherub Choir and oversee the handbell director, the Crossfire Choir (our youth choir) director and Chancel Choir accompanist. I work regularly with our pastor, lay leader, and worship committee to help plan regular and special worship events. I also work regularly with soloists of all ages on weekly offerings. Mountain View also has a Day School for which I lead weekly Chapel services and teach music classes for kids ages 2-5.

Director of Music, Holy Cross United Methodist Church, Carpendale, WV. June 2011-April 2013

I planned and prepare music for weekly services including hymns on both the organ and piano, and the choir selection. The choir also did yearly Christmas and Easter cantatas. In addition to my regular Sunday services, I also taught music during the weekly After School Program, plus organized and directed the yearly children's Christmas Pageant.

Director of Music, Christ's Reformed Church, Hagerstown, MD. September 2008-June 2011

At CRC, I directed three choirs: Cherub (children 46), Canticle (children 79), and Chancel (adult) plus a multi generation handbell choir. I directed yearly Christmas Cantatas and participated in group choir festivals. I also organized a visiting artist series that hosted guest musicians for live concerts which enhanced both regular Sunday services and other performances.

Director of Music, First Presbyterian Church of Hartford City, IN. November 2006-July, 2008

My responsibilities included choosing and leading weekly praise songs, preparing the hymns for both organ and piano, leading the monthly choir, and bringing in various special music groups.

Director of Music, Atwater Congregational Church, Atwater OH. June 2004-August 2006
I led the hymns on both organ and piano and prepared the children's choir for weekly anthems. I also led music during special services for Christmas and Easter.

Director of Music, Christ United Methodist Church, Cumberland, MD. September 2000- August 2003
I prepared and performed weekly hymns, lead the choir in weekly anthems, and organized special music during the summer months, and prepared annual Christmas Cantatas.

Organist, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Boonsboro, MD. January 1997-May 1999
I acted as organist for weekly family services.

Teaching

Preparatory Instruction Experience

Piano/Voice/Ukulele Instructor, The ARK Music Studio. Snohomish, WA. January 2017-current
There are currently 27 students enrolled at The ARK- my private studio which I maintain on my property. Students regularly work together on duets (both piano and vocal), and multiple piano literature. They perform regularly in local recitals (The Thumbnail Theatre and the Snohomish United Methodist Church) as well as other events such as LEST (Lutheran Elementary School Tournament) at Concordia University in Portland, and MTNA's Music in Action event where students consistently receive blue ribbon rankings. In addition to private lessons, I also organize various summer camps on site such as a Rainbows S.T.E.A.M camp (2017), and a Moana Ukulele camp (2018).

Piano/Voice Instructor, Tri-State Community School for the Arts. Cumberland, MD. June 2009 -April 2013

I taught 35 piano and voice students from beginner to advanced using a variety of methods and materials. My private students participated in numerous Honors Recitals, (Penn Alps, the Cumberland Music and Arts Club), the Frostburg State University Piano Auditions, the Allegany County Solo and Ensemble Festival, the Maryland AllState Chorus, and the Allegany All-County Choir.

Voice Clinic Instructor, Garrett Lakes Arts Festival. Oakland, MD. June 2009-June 2010
Working with the educational outreach program, I recruited twelve students from the Allegany and Garrett Counties, plus students from North Carolina and Virginia for a week long voice clinic. My recruitment efforts doubled attendance during that year.

Piano/Voice Instructor, Arts Place, Inc. Portland, IN. September 2006-May 2008
As an instructor at Arts Place, I taught both piano and voice students at all levels.

Piano Instructor, Mount Union College. Alliance, OH. August 2004-July 2006
I taught piano as part of the rigorous Preparatory Division. My students (ages 6-adult) performed in musicals each semester showing solo and duet work.

Piano Instructor, Cumberland Music Academy. Cumberland, MD. September 2000-May 2004
I worked with over 30 students ranging in age from 5-adult using a large variety of pedagogical methods and materials. All of my students performed in two recitals a year. Student accomplishments include: Participation in the Frostburg State University Piano Festival Auditions, Allegany County's Solo and Ensemble Festival (receiving consistently high scores), and one student was recognized by the Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth with a Jack Kent Cooke scholarship. During the summer semester, 2003, I created a Piano Camp directing all aspects of the program. The CMA Piano Camp combined elements of piano with general music appreciation and music theory. It was a huge success.

University Experience

Instructor of Music, Garrett College. McHenry, MD. September 2008-June 2010
I taught piano and voice lessons plus Music Appreciation. As the primary music instructor at Garrett College, I also acted as liaison with the Garrett Lakes Arts Festival and their educational programs.

Adjunct Instructor, Indiana Wesleyan University, Cleveland, OH. March-April 2006
Taught Humanities/Fine Arts MUS 180A.

Elementary Education Experience

General Music Teacher/Choir Teacher, Zion Lutheran School, Lake Stevens, WA. September 2017-August 2020

I taught general music for preschool thru 4th grade, a 5th grade handbell choir, and 6-8 grade elective choir/chapel club. Lesson plans include skills in melody, rhythm, and other music theory knowledge plus music appreciation and practice using Orff and Kodaly instruments, recorders, bells, boomwhackers, and singing. Students perform at annual Christmas and Spring Musicals and concerts. Chapel Club students perform weekly for Wednesday morning Chapel services. The Choir travels to Concordia University in Portland annually to perform for LEST (Lutheran Elementary School Tournament) where they perform with schools from Washington, Oregon, and Idaho for university directors.

Music Teacher, Richmond Heights Christian School, Cleveland, OH. August 2004-June 2006

I taught music for grades K6. The curriculum included general music appreciation and instruction as well as performance studies in singing, and playing the piano and recorder. Students performed at annual Christmas and Spring Musicals and concerts. Lesson plans incorporated fundamental aspects of rhythm and music theory as well as world and Christian music.

Performance Experience

Professional Accompanist

Staff Accompanist, Taylor University, Upland, IN.

January 2007-May 2008

I was responsible for accompanying students in the voice studios of Professors Whipple, Robertson, Barber, Songer, and Trubow; for woodwind Professors Whitford (flute) and Bade (saxophone); and for opera theatre classes directed by Dr. Robertson and Dr. Whipple. My responsibilities included preparation for lessons as well as accompanying for lessons and weekly Performance Classes.

Recital Accompanist

Frostburg State University. Grant Davis, David Wall Junior Joint Recital, April 2010
Shepherd University. Joanna Moomaw Senior Vocal Recital. November 2008
Shepherd University. Matthew Sims Junior Vocal Recital. September 2008
Shepherd University. Alex Sacco Junior Horn Recital. October 2008
Taylor University. Emily Cline. Junior Vocal Recital. May 2007
Shepherd College. Scott Silbert Faculty Woodwind Recital. April 1998

Ensemble and Concert Accompanist

Eat, Drink, and Be Merry A Christmas Cabaret. Front and Centre Stage. December 2011
Those Killing Faeres A New Baroque Musical Monodrama. Muncie Civic Theatre. June 2008.
Opera a la Carte. Taylor University. May 2008
A Comically Classical Christmas Cabaret. Muncie Civic Theatre. December 2007
Musical Theatre Audition Class. Kent State University. January-May 2005
I assisted Mel Fucci in her audition course for the Musical Theatre majors. We held mock auditions for City of Angels and The Secret Garden. The semester culminated in auditions for Porthouse Theatre's 2005 season.

Musical Theatre

Musical Director, and Accompanist

The Jungle Book. Front and Centre Stage. July 2012
Shout! The Mod Musical. Front and Centre Stage. August 2011
Victor/Victoria. Frostburg State University. September-October 2008
Godspell. Muncie Civic Theatre. Muncie, IN. March-April 2008
Under the Gaslight. Frostburg State University. April March, 2001

Musical Director, and Conductor

Ragtime. Muncie Civic Theatre. February 2008

"Musically, it is an enjoyable production. The show opens with an enthusiastic rendition of the title song Ragtime. In fact, the opening number alone is worth the price of admission." Muncie StarPress.

Seussical. Muncie Civic Theatre. April-May 2007 CoMusic Director with Julie Barber

Show Accompanist

Cotton Patch Gospel. Jay County Civic Theatre. Portland, IN. April 2007
Thoroughly Modern Millie. Ball State University. November 2006
Into the Woods. Kent State University. Kent, OH. February 2006
West Side Story. Porthouse Theatre. Cuyahoga Falls, OH. August 2005
The Wizard of Oz. The Maryland Theatre, Hagerstown, MD. July 1999

Solo Performances

Lecture/Solo Recital. Mountain View United Methodist Church, Kingsport, TN. October, 2014

Works of P.D.Q. Bach. Sonata da Circo, "Toot" Suite, Four Folk Song Upsettings, Sonata Innamorata

Solo Recital. Mountain View United Methodist Church, Kingsport, TN. November, 2013

Psalm 80, Psalm 96 Diemer, Siciliano J.S. Bach, L'Annee Liturgique Israelite J. Alain, Music inspired from the movie "The Red Balloon".

Solo Recital. Windsor Hall, Cumberland, MD. January 24, 2009

Bachianas Brasileiras No. 4 (I) Villa Lobos. A minor Sonata, Op. 164 (complete) Schubert. Nocturnes F minor Op. 55 no. 1, E minor Op. 72 no. 1 Chopin, F minor Variations, Haydn.

Staff Recital. Taylor University, Upland, IN. February 21, 2008

F minor Variations Haydn, A minor Sonata, Op. 164 (complete) Schubert, Nocturnes E flat major Op. 9 no. 2, F minor, Op. 55 no. 1, E minor, Op. 72, no. 1 Chopin, Children's Corner Suite L. 113 Debussy, Toccata for Piano Emma Lou Diemer.

Solo Recital. Potomac State College, Keyser, WV. November 18, 2001

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring Bach (arr. Myra Hess), Sonata in c minor K. 457 (complete) Mozart, Polonaise in A major "Military", Op. 40, no. 1 Chopin, Rhapsody in b minor Op. 79 no. 1 Brahms, Romanian Folk Dances (complete) Bartok

Administrative Experience

Founder/Director, Tri-State Community School for the Arts, Cumberland, MD. January 2010- April 2013

As the founder of a new not-for-profit organization, I worked with the Small Business Administration to create a feasible business plan, filed the necessary paperwork with the City of Cumberland, the State of Maryland, and the Internal Revenue Service. I organized the Board of Directors. I also secured premises for the new organization, and took full control of the hiring of teachers and staff. In maintaining the school, I am responsible for all aspects of fundraising, grant writing, accounting, marketing, and program management. As a fledgling school in 2010, we started with 3 teachers and 60 students. In our third year, we currently have 168 students and 15 teachers. 12 of these students are on scholarship. I have also been responsible for bringing in over \$20,000 in grant funds, and overseeing the scheduling of classes, lessons, workshops, events and recitals.

Scholarship Program Coordinator, Music at Penn Alps, Grantsville, MD. September 2012-December 2013.

As administrator of \$21,000 in scholarships on behalf of Music at Penn Alps and the Naylor Foundation, I was responsible for marketing the program, receiving and processing applications, and making recommendations to the Board of Directors of Music at Penn Alps for potential candidates for this scholarship program. Last year, 26 students attended private music lessons free or at a reduced rate with 10 different teachers throughout Maryland, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania.

Administrative Assistant, Arts Place, Inc. Portland, IN.

September 2006-May 2008

An entry level position. I answered phones, made photocopies, accepted payments and donations. I helped maintain the corporate book and put together paperwork for monthly board meetings, and did data entry for much of the fundraising using Sage.

Related Experience

Retail Sales, Western Maryland Music Center. Cumberland, MD. 2012- 2013

Retail Sales, Kauffman Music. Cumberland, MD. 2000-2002

Retail Sales, McFadyen Music. Charlotte, NC. 2000

Performer of several instruments including: mallet percussion, organ, piano, ukulele, and voice

Computer and Internet skills. Knowledge of Microsoft Office, Excel, Frontpage, and PowerPoint. Also familiar with Adobe Acrobat, and Photoshop, and Quickbooks. Experience with music software includes: Finale, EZ Vision, Cakewalk, Garage Band, Sony Sound Forge/Acid. Familiar with Sage Fundraising software.

References

Mrs. Bettye Johnson

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bettyejanejohnson@gmail.com

Pastor Daniel Miranda

Pastor, Auburn United Methodist Church, Auburn, WA. (509) 885-5543
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Cheryl Wilson

Organist, Christ's Reformed Church, Hagerstown, MD. (240) 6750142
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