

Emily M. Dirks

+1 (319) 480-7130 | dirkem01@luther.edu

Education & Training

Master of Music in Vocal Performance, *Phi Beta Kappa* 2018 – 2020

Louisiana State University at Baton Rouge

Bachelor of Arts in Music, *cum laude* 2014 – 2018

Luther College in Decorah, Iowa

Teaching Experience

Alumni Guest Lecturer in Music, Luther College, Decorah, Iowa September 2020 – present

- Teach MUS 130, 230, 330, and 430: Applied Voice Lessons, involving assigning repertoire, weekly lessons, informing lyric diction, and preparing students for jury evaluations; average of thirty students per semester, first years through seniors.
- Teach MUS 115: Class Voice, involving an introduction to the elements of healthy singing for twelve music majors and non-majors. Topics include breathing, support, vowel formation, tone production, basic music literacy, and an introduction to solo vocal literature styles.
- Teach MUS 185: January Term Opera Scenes, involving a daily introduction to opera history course, afternoon acting/movement course, and the rehearsal and performance of opera scenes featuring approximately twenty first-year students.
- Meet weekly with the music department's antiracism task force, which proposed an antiracist statement to the mission statement, offered community forums for current students, alumni, and faculty, made changes with recruitment staff, and continues other ongoing projects.

Private Voice, Piano, and Guitar Studio 2018 – present

- Teach classical, contemporary, and crossover vocal techniques in a private setting, both in person and online with video chat technology; average of three weekly students per semester
- Teach piano and/or guitar technique, including chord progressions, music theory, and aural skills to students who wish to accompany themselves
- Prepare students for upcoming auditions, competitions, and performances with vocal, movement, acting, and diction coaching

Adv. Teaching Practicum with Loraine Sims, DMA, Louisiana State University Fall 2019 – Spring 2020

Taught MUS 2130, involving assigning repertoire, weekly lessons, informing lyric diction and preparing students for jury evaluations; teach student shares, (split lesson time with a major professor at half hour each); three students per semester.

Cover Studio Class for Lori Bade, DMA, Louisiana State University **2019 – 2020**

Lead undergraduate and graduate level students in studio class while the professor was away on professional engagements and other leave.

Assistant Director for *Trouble in Tahiti* (Bernstein), Louisiana State University **Fall 2018**

Assisted director Dugg McDonough by taking notes at all rehearsals, providing staging suggestions, and assisting in set design, costumes, makeup, hair, and special effects.

Roles Performed

Pamina	<i>The Magic Flute</i>	Opera in the Ozarks	2021
Noémie	<i>Cendrillon</i>	Opera in the Ozarks	2021
*Abigail Williams	<i>The Crucible</i>	Opera in the Ozarks	2020
Poussette	<i>Manon</i>	Louisiana State University Opera	2020
Krysia	<i>Two Remain</i> (Heggie)	Louisiana State University Opera	2019
Musetta	<i>La bohème</i>	Opera in the Ozarks	2019
Quartet	<i>Little Women</i>	Opera in the Ozarks	2019
Thérèse	<i>Les Mamelles de Tirésias</i>	Louisiana State University Opera	2019
Fiordiligi	<i>Così fan tutte</i>	La Musica Lirica	2018
Fiordiligi	<i>Così fan tutte</i>	Luther College Opera	2018
Gianetta	<i>The Gondoliers</i>	Luther College Opera	2017
Hanna	<i>The Merry Widow</i>	Luther College Opera	2016
Liesl	<i>The Sound of Music</i>	Starlighters Theatre	2013

*canceled due to COVID-19

Scenes Performed

Frasquita	<i>Carmen</i>	Louisiana State University Opera	2019
Pietho	<i>Here Be Sirens</i> (Soper)	Constatinides New Music Ensemble	2018
Paolina	<i>Poliuto</i> (Bellini)	Louisiana State University Opera	2018
Susannah	<i>Susannah</i>	Louisiana State University Opera	2018
Lady Harriet Durham	<i>Martha</i>	Louisiana State University Opera	2018
Second Lady	<i>Die Zauberflöte</i>	Louisiana State University Opera	2018
Violetta	<i>La traviata</i>	Luther College Opera	2017
Cunégonde	<i>Candide</i>	Luther College Opera	2017

La Seconde Fille	<i>Au Monde</i> (Boseman)	Luther College Opera	2017
Chorus	<i>Madame Butterfly</i>	Luther College Opera	2017
Chorus	<i>Faust</i>	Luther College Opera	2016
Micaëla	<i>Carmen</i>	Luther College Opera	2016
Blanche	<i>Louise</i>	Luther College Opera	2015
Kathie	<i>The Student Prince</i>	Luther College Opera	2015
Nadina	<i>The Chocolate Soldier</i>	Luther College Opera	2015

Larger Works & Oratorio Performed

Soprano Soloist	Four Grainger Songs	Luther College Wind & Percussion	2021
*Soprano Soloist	Requiem (Mozart)	Luther College Nordic Choir	2021
Soprano Soloist	<i>Messiah</i>	First United Methodist Church	2019
Soprano II Chorus	<i>Sunrise Mass</i> (Gjelio)	St. Lukes Episcopal Church	2019
Soprano II Chorus	<i>B Minor Mass</i>	Luther College Nordic Choir	2017
Alto I Chorus	<i>Lux Aeterna</i> (Lauridsen)	Luther College Nordic Choir	2016
Alto I Chorus	<i>Lord Nelson Mass</i>	Luther College Nordic Choir	2016

*canceled due to COVID-19

Operatic Training Programs

Emerging Artist, Opera in the Ozarks; Summer 2019, 2021
 Vaccai Bel Canto Bootcamp, Summer-Fall 2020
 Opera Division, La Musica Lirica, Summer 2018

Scholarships & Grants

H. George Anderson & Jutta F. Anderson Faculty Development Award	Luther College	2021
Emerging Artist Scholarship	Opera in the Ozarks	2021
Turner-Fischer Scholarship for Opera	Louisiana State University	2019-2020
Graduate Assistantship with Tuition Exemption	Louisiana State University	2018-2020
Steve & Colleen Shogren Scholarship	Opera in the Ozarks	2019
Summer Travel Grant	Louisiana State University	2019
Virginia Baker Faldet Scholarship in Music	Luther College	2018
Music Lesson Grant	Luther College	2015-2018
Weston Noble Scholarship in Music	Luther College	2014-2018
Kristi Buckneberg Kuh Scholarship in Music	Luther College	2016
Deborah J. Madsen '73 Scholarship in Music	Luther College	2016
Lucille Stansberry Rosholt Scholarship in Music	Luther College	2015
Jenson Music Scholarship	Luther College	2015

Njus-Sanderson Music Scholarship	Luther College	2015
Music Lesson Scholarship	Luther College	2014-2015

Competitions

First Place, Louisiana State NATS	Hammond, Louisiana	2019
Finalist, Concerto Competition	Luther College	2017
First Honorable Mention, Iowa NATS	Des Moines, Iowa	2017
Allan & Sally Brudos Prize for Opera Performance	Luther College	2017
Second Place, Iowa NATS	Cedar Falls, Iowa	2015
First Place, Central Region NATS	Quad Cities, Illinois	2014

Master Class Participation

Brygida Bziukiewicz-Kulig: Professor of Voice, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater

Octavio Cardenes: Stage Director, Minnesota Opera

Linda DiFiore: Voice teacher, Crissman Studio Artists at Opera Santa Barbara

Rebecca Folsom: Professor of Voice, Boston Conservatory of Music

Martin Katz: Professor of Collaborative Piano, University of Michigan

Lisette Oropesa, *soprano*

Rebecca Sherburn, DMA: Director of Vocal Studies, Chapman University

Brian Speck: Music Director, Houston Grand Opera Studio

Recitals Performed

Master's of Music Recital at Louisiana State University | April 28, 2020

"Oh, had I juba's lyre" (Handel), *Mädchenblumen* (Strauss), *Fêtes Galantes I* (Debussy), *Knoxville, Summer of 1915* (Barber), "Qui la voce...Vien Diletto" from *I Puritani* by Bellini

Senior Recital at Luther College, Decorah, Iowa | April 28, 2017

Exsultate, jubilate (Mozart), *Airs chantés* (Poulenc), selected songs by Josef Marx and Lee Hoiby, "Klänge der Heimat" (J. Strauss II)

Junior Recital at Luther College, Decorah, Iowa | April 9, 2017

"Col piacer della mia fede" (Vivaldi), "Chère nuit" (Bachelet), "Ah! Je ris de me voir" from *Faust* (Gounod), selected songs by Bellini, Schumann, and Amy Beach

Other Relevant Experience & Training

MUS 7170: Advanced Vocal Pedagogy | Loraine Sims, DMA | Louisiana State University

Course covering the anatomy, science of phonation, and other relevant information regarding vocal production with the use of technology in the studio, specifically Voce Vista

MUS 7701: Pedagogy of Music Theory | Inessa Bazayev, DMA | Louisiana State University

Course covering the methods to teach theory and aural skills to undergraduate level students; taught two mock classes to graduate level peers

MUS 7221, 7222: Vocal Literature | Lori Bade, DMA | Louisiana State University

Courses covering art song from German, French, Italian, Spanish, English, and Russian repertoire

MUS 4020: Intro to Alexander Technique | Professor Patricia O'Neill | Louisiana State University

Course covering many aspects of the Alexander Technique, including regular masterclasses in performance and practice

MUS 7018, 7019 & 7020: Advanced Lyric Diction | Professor Sandra Moon | Louisiana State University

Courses covering advanced study in German, Italian, and French diction

MUS 7997: Introduction to Bel Canto | Professor Michael Borowitz | Louisiana State University

Course covering bel canto history, proper style, Italian versification, weekly individual coachings on selected repertoire, and a recital performance

MUS 4242: Acting for Opera | Professor Dugg McDonough | Louisiana State University

Course covered acting styles available for opera singers, the preparation required to perform roles and arias, and weekly mock auditions

Voice Teachers

Monica Williams-McCullough, DMA, Visiting Lecturer of Music, University of Nevada-Las Vegas (current)

Lori Bade, DMA, Professor of Voice, Louisiana State University (2018-2020)

Beth Ray-Westlund, DMA, Professor of Music, Luther College (2014-2018)

Kristen Eby, MM, Director of Choral Activities, University of Dubuque (2012-2014)

Francie Head, Former Director of Choral Activities, Monticello High School (2010-2012)

Coaches

Michael Borowitz, Associate Professor and Music Director, Louisiana State University

Corey Battey, Senior Vocal Coach, Opera in the Ozarks

Elena Lacheva, Professional-in-Residence, Louisiana State University

Anna María Otamendi, DMA, Assistant Professor in Collaborative Piano, Louisiana State University

Louis Menendez, Senior Vocal Coach, Opera in the Ozarks

Jessica Paul, DMA, Professor Emeritus in Collaborative Piano, Luther College

Elaine Rinaldi, Founder and Artistic Director of the Miami Orchestra

Nicholas Shaneyfelt, DMA, Assistant Professor of Music in Collaborative Piano, Luther College

Conductors

Daniel Baldwin, DMA, Professor of Music, Luther College

Pietro Billi, La Musica Lirica, Novafeltria, Italy

Michael Borowitz, Associate Professor and Music Director, Louisiana State University

Thomas Cockrell, DMA, Professor of Music, University of Arizona

Caleb Harris, DMA, Adjunct Associate Professor of Piano, Vanderbilt University

Elaine Rinaldi, Founder and Artistic Director of the Miami Orchestra

Stage Directors

Richard Gammon, Director of Opera, University of Northern Iowa

François Loup, Associate Professor, University of Maryland

Dugg McDonough, Associate Professor & Artistic Director, Louisiana State University

Robert Swedberg, Former Associate Professor of Music & Director of Opera, University of Michigan

David Ward, Visiting Assistant Professor, Crane School of Music

Andrew Whitfield, DMA, Professor of Music, Luther College

