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Conducting with Passion and Precision

Professional Experience

Instructor of Music Appreciation: University of South Carolina 2014-2015

- Created a 14-week guest-performing artist series for the class.
- Effectively engaged and managed 150 non-music majors.
- Recruited and developed 4 undergraduate assistants for logistic management of the class.

Founder & Director: Aspire Band Camp 2013-2016

- Developed and marketed a new concept camp in the greater Greenville, SC area.
- Collaborated with band directors in the Upstate of South Carolina recruiting students.
- Hired and managed over 10 staff directors and 4 student staff per camp.
- Oversaw all expenses and payroll.

Founder & Director: Explore! Band Camp & Jazz Camps 2009-2014

- Developed and marketed a new concept camps in the greater Seattle area.
- Partnered with band directors across Washington State to recruit students.
- Networked with band directors state-wide.
- Hired and managed over 10 staff directors and 4 student staff per camp.
- Oversaw all expenses and payroll.

Music Consultant: Washington State and Canada 2008-2009

- Created and facilitated lectures at music education conventions.
- Guest conducted in rehearsal and performance several high-school ensembles.
- Lead clinics at several large ensemble concert festivals in Washington State. ➤ Judged for several solo and ensemble events.

Band Director: Bellevue Christian School 2007-2012

- Organized a cross-country mission trip with 40 students and 5 adults.
- Spear-headed 2 recording projects and released two CDs.
- Obtained funding for and commissioned a new work, *Pacific Tides*, for Wind Ensemble by composer John Moody.
- Supervised a music education college student.

Founder & Conductor: Sumter Chamber Orchestra 2000-2003

- Developed and marketed a new orchestra in the town of Sumter, SC.
- Recruited and Rehearsed players from Sumter, SC and Columbia, SC.
- Presented 6 concerts that included symphonies, concertos and vocal soloists.

Other Professional Experience

Public Speaker

2013-2015

- Spoke to over 30 groups in more than 20 South Carolina counties.
- Campaigned for various candidates running for local and statewide offices. ➤
Developed an outreach platform to attract new voters.

Author & Contributor

2006-2015

- Authored the research dissertation *Expanding the American Canon: A Conductor's Compendium of Black American Orchestral Composers* published by ProQuest Dissertations. (2015)
- Wrote chapter on Walter Hartley in *A Composers Insight, Vol.4* published by Meredith Music. (2009)
- Worked as an Assistant Editor for *A Composers Insight, Vol. 3* published by Meredith Music. (2006)

Education & Certifications

➤ University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

Earned Doctorate degree (D.M.A) in orchestral music conducting in 2015

Earned a Master of Music degree (M.M) in orchestral music conducting in 2005

Awarded the Bachelor of Music degree (B.M.) in instrumental music education in 2001

➤ University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Completed various graduate level courses in advanced music theory, wind band conducting, music criticism, and music history.

Partnered with the FirstPlace School of Seattle to create a band program for homeless students.

➤ Darla Moore School of Business

Enrolled in the M.B.A program.

Completed courses on Organizational Behavior and Information Systems.

Assisted in presentation concept, design, and execution for a presentation on the Nuclear Energy sector.

Professional Skills

Conducting & Coordinating:

Challenge: Assemble a musical ensemble with limited time resources.

Result: Assembled a summer orchestra at the University of Washington to perform in public the Summer of 2006. Created three ensembles at the University of South Carolina to perform three different concerts one of which featured Igor Stravinsky's notoriously difficult *L'Histoire du Soldat*.

Communication & Research:

Challenge: Develop relationships with many composers and scholars around the United States in a 6-month time-frame to gather data for a doctoral dissertation.

Result: Cross-referenced several sources in order to track down over 20 different scholars and conductors, whose data contributed to a new-to-the-field compendium of orchestral music composed and available by Black-American composers for the use of active conductors. Also served as a doctoral dissertation from the University of South Carolina.

Teaching & Training:

Challenge: Teach a music appreciation class of uninterested non-music major students at the University of South Carolina.

Result: Effectively engaged a lecture class of 100 to 150 so that 80% completed the end-of-term survey and the Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award was granted (one out of two across the University). Also recruited and trained four unpaid undergraduate assistants in the logistics and management of the class.

Product Development & Marketing:

Challenge: Develop a Summer Music Camp from ground zero with little to no network contacts.

Result: Built and successfully managed three profitable summer music camp businesses between 2009 and 2014 in Seattle, WA and Greenville, SC. Average camp attendance was 60 students in each camp and net profit averaged \$5,000 for each camp week.

Personal References

Nse' Ekpo's personal references are available upon request.