

Ryan W. Sullivan

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting	<i>University of North Texas</i>	2019
Cognate: Early Music Performance Practice		
Master of Music in Choral Conducting	<i>Texas Tech University</i>	2016
Bachelor of Music Education in Choral Music	<i>University of Missouri - Kansas City</i>	2009
Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance	<i>University of Missouri - Kansas City</i>	2009
Optimizing Diversity on Teams Certificate	<i>University of Pennsylvania</i>	2021
COVID-19 Contact Tracing Certificate	<i>Johns Hopkins University</i>	2020
K-12 Music "Lifetime" Teaching Certificate	<i>Missouri DESE</i>	2009

TEACHING/CONDUCTING

ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Director of Choral Activities & Vocal Studies Coordinator 2019-current

Academic Rank: Tenure Track Assistant Professor

- Lead and administer aspects of a comprehensive university choral program of undergraduate and graduate students, and community members, which includes the following ensembles:
 - Concert Choir
 - Chamber Singers
 - Scarlet Voices
 - Jonesboro Chorale
 - Singing Statesmen
- Recruit new and current students for choral and voice areas. Choral ensemble enrollment increased 85%, applied voice enrollment increased 87%, and voice majors and minors increased by 87%. The racial/ethnic diversity of students in the choral ensembles closely reflect that of the university at large.
- Taught courses in the Music Department and College of Education as assigned:
 - MUS 1531 Concert Choir
 - MUS 1631 Singing Statesmen
 - MUS 3371 Chamber Singers
 - MUS 3361 Jonesboro Chorale
 - MUS 3441 Elementary Conducting
 - MUS 3452 Choral Conducting, Literature & Sequencing
 - MUSP 6112 Applied Conducting
 - TIMU 4826 Teaching Internship
 - MUED 4623 Methods & Materials for Teaching Vocal Music
- Sponsor a restarted student chapter of the American Choral Directors Association.
- Service to the university via committee work:
 - Music Department
 - Director of Bands faculty search, Chair 2023 - 2024
 - Interim Band Director faculty search, Chair 2023
 - COVID Safety Committee, Lead Researcher 2020 - 2022
 - Program Viability Committee, Member 2021 - 2022

- Student Infrastructure Advisory Committee, Member 2020 - 2022
- Assoc. Director of Choral Activities faculty search, Member 2021
- Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Chair 2019 - current
- Graduate Curriculum Committee, Member 2019 - current
- Graduate Assistant Selection/Duty Committee 2019 - current
- Department Grievance Committee, Member 2019 - 2021
- Strategic Plan Committee, Member 2019 - current
- College of Liberal Arts & Communications
- Recruitment Committee, Member 2021
- Curriculum Committee, Member 2022 - 2023
- University
- Financial Aid & Scholarships Committee, Member 2021 - 2023
- Lecture-Concert Series Committee, Chair 2023 - current
- Coordinate Vocal Studies area by establishing a budget, revising curriculum, making studio assignments, hiring adjunct faculty, and creating standards-based assessment for juries and other performances.

Initiatives Within A-State Choral Program

- Led the Concert Choir on a ten-day performance tour of Portugal, including an appearance at the Lisbon International Music Festival.
- A-State Choral Invitational: A non-competitive, performance-based adjudication and clinic for statewide high school ensembles.
- During my first four years, nearly \$55,000 were added to the choral program's account at the ASU Foundation for special projects and student travel. Planned new annual winter concert to collaborate with instrumental ensembles from the university and community.
- Program Collaboration: Partnered with target campus and community organizations to highlight themes of each concert (Women and Gender Studies Office, Black Student Association, Campus Food Bank, etc.). These exchanges provided additional layers of meaning to the performance and grew our audiences to those who might not otherwise attend.
- Statewide Touring: After more than a decade hiatus, the A-State choirs increased their visibility around the state by visiting with and performing at high schools, junior highs, and elementary schools.

Composer Commissions and Collaborations

- Derek Jenkins - World Premiere and Commission of *These Are Enough* (2020), composer attended, Finalist for American Prize in Choral Composition, in memory of former A-State choir student.
- Jonathan Krinke - Premiered arrangement of *Christmas Song* (2021)
- James Eakin - World Premiere and Commission of *Altar of Night* (2022), composer attended rehearsal.
- Dana Wilson - Consortium Commission of *Wild Nights* (2023) and performance with A-State Bands in Spring 2024.
- Jake Runestad - Composer residency in October 2023 that serves A-State Choirs, A-State Bands, Composition students, a headline clinician for the A-State Choral Invitational, and featured speaker at Lecture-Concert Series.

Broadcast Interviews

- Claybrook, E. (2020, August). COVID-19 Safety and Pivoting in Arkansas Performing Arts. *Nightly News*. Fayetteville, Arkansas; ABC: KHBS.

- Scarbrough, M. (2022, April). Discussion of *Bluegrass Mass. Arkansas Roots*. Jonesboro, Arkansas; National Public Radio: KASU.
- Scarbrough, M. (2022, October). Discussion of *Considering Matthew Shepard. Arkansas Roots*. Jonesboro, Arkansas; National Public Radio: KASU.

Solo, Ensemble, and Professional Collaborations

- Matt Carey, A-State Assistant Professor of Voice, and Dr. Marika Kyriakos, A-State Professor of Voice, *The Heavens are Telling* from 'Creation' by G.F. Haydn, October 2019
- Dr. Barbara Lamont, Director of Choral Activities at Southeast Missouri State University, Guest Conductor, November 2019
- Dr. Bruce Faske, A-State Assistant Professor of Trombone, *Gloria* from *Vesprae della Beata Virgine* by Claudio Monteverdi, November 2019
- Delta Symphony Orchestra, *Gloria* by John Rutter, December 2019
- Dr. Jeffrey Murdock, University of Arkansas Associate Director of Choral Activities, Guest Conductor, February 2020
- Matt Carey, A-State Assistant Professor of Voice, *Five Mystical Songs* by Ralph Vaughan Williams, February 2020
- Dr. Marika Kyriakos, A-State Professor of Voice, *Hard Times* by Stephen Foster (arr. Hella Johnson), October 2021
- Crystal Kachevas, A-State Adjunct Instructor of Voice, A-State Faculty Woodwind Quintet, Dr. Derek Jenkins, A-State Assistant Professor of Theory & Composition, *Dark Night of the Soul* by Ola Gjeilo, October 2021
- Dr. Erin Cameron, A-State Assistant Professor of Clarinet, *Kyrie & Benedictus* from 'Missa Pax' by Timothy Corlis, October 2021
- Dr. Ben Hawkinson, Millikin University Associate Director of Choral Activities, Guest Conductor, October 2021
- Dr. Bruce Faske, A-State Assistant Professor of Trombone, Dr. Juli Buxbaum, A-State Assistant Professor of Horn, Dr. Nairam Simoes, A-State Assistant Professor of Trumpet, Dr. Ed Owen, Professor of Tuba and Euphonium, *Personent Hodie* by Lara Hoggard and *Joy!* arr. Bjella, December 2021
- Dr. Tim Crist, A-State Professor of Theory and Guitar, *Christmas Song* by Dave Matthews, December 2021
- Ensemble Verdigris, masterclass with Concert Choir and concert in A-State Lecture Concert Series, February 2022 (canceled due to inclement weather)
- Monroe Crossing band, *The World Beloved: A Bluegrass Mass* by Carol Barnett, April 2022
- A-State Theatre Department, Dr. Brian Graiser, A-State Instructor of Percussion, *Considering Matthew Shepard* by Craig Hella Johnson, October 2022

DALLAS SYMPHONY CHORUS

Conducting Associate

2018 - 2019

- Assisted conductor in artistic vision and execution of the Chorus' preparation for concerts with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra and with guest orchestras while on international tour.
- Chorus Master for two concert series including National Geographic's *Symphony for Our World*.
- Led all sound-building exercises for a 215 member volunteer chorus.
- Led rehearsals in Chorus Director's absence.

CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

CONDUCTOR/ADJUDICATOR

Colorado Elementary All-State Choir, Colorado Springs, CO	2024
Diamond Brass Band, Jonesboro, AR (guest conductor)	2022, 2023
Arkansas Region 5 Senior High Mixed Choir, Springdale, AR	2023
Arkansas Region 4 Senior High Mixed Choir, Russellville, AR	2023
Arkansas ACDA All-Region Preparation Choir, Little Rock, AR	2023
Jonesboro Junior High Festival, Jonesboro, AR	2022
Arkansas Choral Connection, Conway, AR	2022 - 2023
North Texas Choral Classic, Fort Worth, TX	2022
Eastern Arizona Honor Music Festival, Thatcher, AZ	2022
Arkansas Region 2 Senior High Mixed Choir, Beebe, AR	2021
Tabor College Choral Leadership Day, Hillsboro, KS	2021
University of Missouri - Kansas City Vocal Arts Festival, Kansas City, MO	2020
Arkansas Region 1 Senior High Treble Choir, Jonesboro, AR	2019

GUEST LECTURER/ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst in Stuttgart - Conducting	2023
Hochschule für Kirchenmusik in Rottenburg-Stuttgart - U.S. Music Education Systems, Bernstein's <i>Chichester Psalms</i> , Conducting Masterclasses	2023
ArkCDA Region 1 - Conducting Masterclass	2021
University of North Texas (MME program) - Choral Tone in Contrasting Periods and Cultures	2021
Millikin University - Vocal Health, Repertoire Programming	2019

GUEST CLINICIAN AT UNIVERSITIES (alphabetical order)

Arkansas Tech University, Russellville, AR	2021
Eastern Arizona College, Thatcher, AZ	2022
Hochschule für Kirchenmusik in Tübingen, Germany	2023

PUBLICATIONS, INTERVIEWS & RECORDINGS

Invited

Scarborough, M. (2022, May). The World Beloved: A Bluegrass Mass. *Bluegrass Mondays*. Paragould, Arkansas; National Public Radio: KASU.

Sullivan, R. (2021, October). Mein teurer Heiland from "Johannes-Passion." *In Performance at A-State*. Jonesboro, Arkansas; National Public Radio: KASU.

Gillespie, W. (2021, February). Legrenzi Suggests... *Harmonia Uncut*. Bloomington, Indiana; National Public Radio: WFIU.

Adelson, R. (2018, June). Le mariage d'Antonio. *Radio Suisse Romande*. Lausanne, Switzerland; Radio Suisse.

Juried

Sullivan, R., McNickle, C., Wehner, B., Li, S. (pending). Embodying the Music: A Survey of Choral Music Educators on Conducting Injury and Prevention Techniques. *International Journal for Research in Choral Music*. (pages)

Sullivan, R. (2020, November). Choral Music Reviews. *Choral Journal*, 51–51.

Krinke, J. and Sullivan, R. (2009, June/July). Investing in Our Future: A Student-Centered Convention. *Choral Journal*, 69-71.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Invited

Sullivan, R., Adams, K. (2024, February 29). *Planning for Graduate Education and Beginning Academic Careers*. Southwestern American Choral Directors Conference, Denver, CO.

Sullivan, R. (2024, January 26). *Embody the Music in You: Injury Prevention Conducting Masterclass*. Colorado Music Educators Association Conference, Colorado Springs, CO.

Sullivan, R. (2024, January 25). *The Conductor's Singing Voice: A Health Guide*. Colorado Music Educators Association Conference, Colorado Springs, CO.

Sullivan, R., McNickle, C. (2023, July 20). *Embody the Music in You: Injury Prevention Conducting Masterclass*. Missouri Choral Directors Association, Springfield, MO.

Sullivan, R. (2020, October 25). *Singing Through the Ages*. SWACDA Virtual Interest Sessions, Online.

Juried

McNickle, C., Sullivan, R. (2023, October 13). *Embody the Music in You: Injury Prevention*. Society for Music Teacher Education Conference, Salt Lake City, UT. [co-author presented in my absence]

Murdock, J., Sullivan, R., Harris, C. (2022, July 11). *The Choral Rehearsal in Real Time: Best Practices*. Arkansas Choral Directors Association, North Little Rock, AR.

Sullivan, R. (2020, April 23). *Sound and Score: Practical Decision-Making for the Performer/Editor*. Las Vegas Baroque Festival, Las Vegas, NV. (Covid)

Sullivan, R. (2019, July 20). *The Conductor's Singing Voice: A Health Guide*. Missouri Choral Directors Association Conference, Jefferson City, MO.

Sullivan, R., Bjella, R. (2016, March 9). *Reimagining the Renaissance for Beginning Singers*. Southwestern ACDA Conference, Kansas City, MO.

SERVICE & ADMINISTRATION

President	<i>ACDA Southwestern Region</i>	2020-2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● As the lead executive for a seven state region, I assembled the most diverse boards in the organization's history to plan a conference for ~4,000 attendees and participants. The theme and programming of this conference, "Together," serves as both a reminder of the value of re-joining in-person, but also the value of our unity of purpose. ● The conference budget of mid-six figures prioritized inclusivity, growth, and student engagement that will matriculate into long-term membership in the organization. ● Our board initiated its first-ever advocacy/teaching resources and online webinars for membership in an era defined by COVID-19 and solving achievement gaps in diverse populations. ● Began inaugural Historically Black Colleges & Universities (HBCU) Honor Choir in the Region. ● As a member of the ACDA National Board, I... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Approved the hiring of Executive Director. ○ Adjusted the funding formula for the organization to reflect post-pandemic revenue variables. ○ Reviewed a nation-wide survey about the organization's values and goals for diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging. ○ Reviewed and implemented recommendations of the national Diversity Initiatives Committee regarding structure, procedure, and content in the organization. ○ Revised the national constitution and by-laws. 		
Assistant Program Chair	<i>Southwestern ACDA Conference</i>	2020
Set budget for conference based on expected revenue, selected performance and conference venues, set conference schedule, and negotiated contracts with hotels and other vendors.		
Chair for Youth/Student Activities	<i>Southwestern ACDA Conference</i>	2020
Plan programming for pre-service teachers to cover practical content that is often covered lightly in music education degrees, coordinate guest speakers, and market to college students in a seven state region.		
Repertoire & Resources Chair for Ethnic Music	<i>Arkansas ACDA</i>	2019-2020
Served on state board, helped write the handbook for Repertoire & Resources chairs in the state, served as a voice for diversity, equity, and inclusion via repertoire programming.		
Youth/Student Repertoire & Resources Chair	<i>Missouri Choral Directors Association</i>	2011 - 2013
Oversaw student and new teacher membership growth by 200%, planned collegiate track at conference, during which attendance grew from ~15 to ~85 individuals, wrote articles for publication in state journal, and coordinated charitable pilot-program for student conference scholarships. This program has since been adopted by three regional conferences of ACDA.		
Chorus Administrator	<i>Dallas Symphony Orchestra</i>	2017 - 2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Managed communications and record keeping with 215 member volunteer chorus. ● Planned semi-annual auditions for new and returning chorus members and kept historical audition records. 		

- Resolved facilities access issues for the chorus and collaborative artists.
- Maintained accurate attendance records.
- Liaised with Dallas Symphony Association Operations and City of Dallas staff.
- Managed recruitment and publicity for public chorus events in the community.
- Point-person for logistics planning and operations during a four-country tour of 150 participants.

Board Member at Large*Delta Symphony Orchestra*

2019 - 2022

Passed and implemented the first budget in several seasons; created a sponsorship program and supported home concert series that quadrupled event revenue in one season; integrated information management of donor base, giving, ticket sales, mailings, etc., hired Executive Director to manage day-to-day operations.

HONORS

Conducting Fellow - U.S.A. Delegation	ACDA Int'l Conductor Exchange Program	2023
Outstanding Graduate Student	University of North Texas College of Music	2018
Adams-Nordstrom Early Music Award	University of North Texas	2018
Conducting Masterclass Finalist	Santa Fe Desert Chorale	2017
Kansas City Metro Director of the Year	Missouri Choral Directors Association	2014
Prelude Award	Missouri Choral Directors Association	2014

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Choral Directors Association	2005 -
International Federation for Choral Music	2021 -
Conductors Guild	2016 -
National Association for Music Education	2013 -

* Events and projects which were canceled or delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic are noted using (Covid)