

Ryan W. Sullivan

Director of Choral Activities & Vocal Studies Coordinator
Arkansas State University

EDUCATION/CERTIFICATION

Doctor of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting Cognate: Early Music Performance Practice	<i>University of North Texas</i>	2019
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
K-12 Music “Lifetime” Teaching Certificate	<i>Missouri Dept. of Elementary & Secondary Education</i>	2009
COVID-19 Contact Tracing Certification	<i>Johns Hopkins University</i>	2020

Primary Teachers

Dr. Allen Hightower (choral conducting)	2016 - 2019
David Becker (orchestral conducting)	2015
Richard Bjella (choral conducting)	2014 - 2016
William Joyner (voice)	2017 - 2018
Vinson Cole (voice)	2007 - 2009
Dr. Brad Bennight (continuo)	2016 - 2019

TEACHING/CONDUCTING

ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Director of Choral Activities & Coordinator of Vocal Studies 2019 - current

Led all aspects of the choral and voice program in conjunction with choral, music education, voice, and other faculty, directed Chamber Singers, Concert Choir, and a hybrid student and community chorus; taught undergraduate conducting and secondary methods courses, led major recruiting effort to increase the number of major and non-major students, re-opened and sponsored student chapter of American Choral Directors Association, administered large scholarship budget, revised undergraduate curriculum.

DALLAS SYMPHONY CHORUS

Conducting Associate 2018 - 2019

Led all sound-building exercises for 215 member volunteer chorus, served as Chorus Master for two series with orchestra including a collaboration with National Geographic, led rehearsals in conductor’s absence, assisted conductor in artistic vision and execution of the chorus’ preparation for concert with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra and with guest orchestras while on international tour.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS

Collegium Singers 2017 - 2019

Assistant Conductor for largely graduate early music ensemble, coordinated with Baroque Orchestra for performances, conducted choir and orchestra during four concerts in three

semesters, served as one-semester sabbatical replacement for conductor, organized performance travel to Boston Early Music Festival.

Men's Chorus 2016 - 2017

Instructor of record, led instruction in musical literacy and vocal concepts, recruited ensemble members, increased campus and community visibility of the ensemble, selected repertoire for all performances, coordinated with other conductors for combined masterwork performance.

A Cappella Choir 2017 - 2018

Assistant Conductor for flagship choral ensemble of university. Regularly led rehearsals and conducted performances.

Fundamentals of Conducting 2016 - 2017

Instructor of record, taught introductory undergraduate course in conducting to instrumental and vocal majors.

Coronide 2018

Conducted North American premiere of *Coronide*, an opera by Vit Zouhar, and prepared the orchestra and singers for UNT's International Festival of Czech Music.

Le Mariage d'Antonio 2018

Conducted North American premiere of an opera, *Le mariage d'Antonio*, and prepared the orchestra and chorus for performance.

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

University Singers 2015 - 2016

Instructor of record, led instruction in musical literacy and vocal concepts, recruited ensemble members, taught undergraduate "Conductor Apprentice Program" with focus on repertoire selection, score study, and gestural practices.

Women's Chorale 2014 - 2016

Regularly led rehearsals for Women's Chorale, assisted with learning in Undergraduate conducting course.

Aural Skills I - II 2014 - 2015

Instructor of record, taught strategies for sight singing and dictation, and graded papers for theory and aural skills classes taught by faculty.

LEE'S SUMMIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 2009 - 2014

Choir teacher at Lee's Summit High School and Lee's Summit West High School in Missouri; gave instruction for eight choral ensembles and a music appreciation course, prepared small ensembles and soloists for district and state level adjudication, directed extra-curricular chamber choirs, music directed theatrical productions, coordinated with music booster organization, and coordinated travel and performance at Avery Fisher Hall (NYC) and Kauffman Center (KC).

COMMUNITY & CHURCH

Director of Music Ministries *Northway Christian Church* 2018 - 2019

Coordinated with staff to effectively plan aspects of music for worship, supervised paid singers, hired orchestra for bi-annual major work, commissioned new anthems, grew number of volunteers in traditional and contemporary music, increased music budget, and modernized the music library and catalogue.

- Director of Worship** *Lakewood Way Community Church* 2011 - 2014
 Planned music weekly worship, organized team of volunteer musicians, led weekly music rehearsals for services, managed budget for the music ministry, and coordinated job search for a Director of Music.
- Choral Director** *Music-Arts Institute* 2011 - 2013
 Led instruction for community choirs of 4th-8th and 9th-12th grades, selected literature, coordinated collaborative performances with other organizations including grand opening of the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts.

CREATIVE ACTIVITY

- “Sound and Score” (COVID-19)** 2020
Las Vegas Baroque Festival
 A conference presentation using my complete edition of “Sacri e festivi concerti, Op. 9,” by Giovanni Legrenzi to demonstrate practical application of performance practice in 17th century Italian repertoire.
- “The Conductor's Singing Voice: A Health Guide”** 2019
Missouri Choral Directors Assoc. Conference
 A conference presentation designed to help teachers who may suffer from over-use or mis-use of their singing voice using research-based solutions.
- “Sacri e Festivi Concerti, Op. 9”** 2019
 The first complete performance edition of Giovanni Legrenzi’s Opus 9 which includes mass and Vespers settings.
- “Reimagining the Renaissance for Beginning Singers”** 2016
Southwest ACDA Conference
 A conference lecture session to demonstrate the process of arranging and rehearsing early choral music with middle and high school singers. Examples include my own arrangements and some donated by Alliance Publishing.
- Sullivan, Ryan. *Choral Journal*, November 2020. “Choral Music Reviews.” p. _____.
 A summary and recommendation of a newly composed choral work.
- Sullivan, Ryan. ed. “Alternative Choral Resources.” Southwestern American Choral Directors Association.
- Krinke, Jonathan & Sullivan, Ryan. *Choral Journal*, June/July 2009. “Investing in Our Future: A Student-Centered Convention.” p. 69-71.
 A report of a conference focusing on conducting students held in conjunction with the 2008 Missouri Choral Directors Association’s summer conference.
- “Two Masters”**
Presentation at Missouri Music Educators Conference 2009
Presentation at UMKC Undergraduate Research Symposium 2008
 Paper was awarded 1st Place in Humanities Division at UMKC Symposium; conducted original archival research on the patronage of Renaissance composers Dufay and Ockeghem.

Guest Lecturer

Ryan W. Sullivan, CV (3)

Millikin University - Vocal Health, Repertoire Programming	2019
University of North Texas - Choral Methods for Instrumental Majors	2017, 2018
University of North Texas - Choral Literature for Music Education Majors	2018, 2019
University of Nevada at Las Vegas - Repertoire Programming	2017
Texas Tech University - Choosing Graduate Study	2015
Missouri State University - Professional Development Strategies	2013
University of Central Missouri - Choral Repertoire & Professional Development	2013
Evangel University - Choral Repertoire	2012
Northwest Missouri State University - Teaching Sight Singing	2012
Truman State University - Choral Repertoire	2012
University of Missouri at Columbia - Choral Repertoire & Professional Development	2012
University of Missouri at Kansas City - Teaching Sight Singing	2011
Webster University - Choral Repertoire	2009

Guest Conductor/Clinician

Eastern Arizona College Honor Festival, Thatcher, AZ	2022
MidAmerica Productions at Carnegie Hall, New York City, NY	2021
A Celebration of Excellence (American Classic), Houston, TX	2021
Arkansas ACDA 9th & 10th Grade Honor Choir, Jonesboro, AR	2021
Arkansas Region 2 Senior High Mixed Choir, Little Rock, AR	2020
Arkansas ACDA 9th & 10th Grade Honor Choir, Jonesboro, AR (COVID-19)	2020
A Celebration of Excellence (American Classic), Houston, TX (COVID-19)	2020
University of Missouri - Kansas City Vocal Arts Festival, Kansas City, MO	2020
Millikin University Collegiate Chorale, Decatur, IL	2019
Arkansas Region 1 Senior High Treble Choir, Jonesboro, AR	2019
Middle School Festival, Eastern Jackson County, MO	2014
Combined Middle School Choral Festival, Miami County, KS	2014

SERVICE & ADMINISTRATION

President *Southwestern ACDA* 2020 - 2022

Member of the National Board; planned regional conference for ~8,000 attendees; coordinated leadership team of 30 people; participated in search for national Executive Director; created advocacy and teaching resources for membership during year of music defined by COVID-19 physical distancing; hosted new initiative of two webinars for membership prior to in-person conference.

Board Member at Large *Delta Symphony Orchestra* 2019 - current

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

Repertoire & Resources Chair for Ethnic Music *Arkansas ACDA* 2019 - 2021

Served on state board,

Site Chair *Arkansas ACDA Conference* 2020

Hosted organization's first web-based conference (due to COVID-19); set conference budget (first with net revenue in several years); coordinated web-based logistics and training for presenters and attendees.

- Assistant Program Chair** *Southwestern ACDA Conference* 2020
 Learned how to set budget for conference based on expected revenue; selected performance and conference venues; set conference schedule; negotiated contracts with hotels and other vendors.
- Chair for Youth/Student Activities** *Southwestern ACDA Conference* 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 seven state region.
- Chorus Administrator** *Dallas Symphony Orchestra* 2017 - 2019
 Responsible for communications with 220 member volunteer chorus, managed issues of access and facilities for the chorus and collaborative artists, maintained attendance records, liaison with Dallas Symphony Assoc. Operations and City of Dallas staff, managed recruitment and publicity, point-person for planning and operations during a four-country tour of 150 participants.
- Performing Choir Selection Panel** *Southwestern ACDA Conference* 2017
 Adjudicated recorded submissions for high school choirs who applied to perform at the conference.
- Dean's Student Advisory Board** *University of North Texas College of Music* 2016 - 2017
 Served as representative for graduate conducting majors to committee that informed the Dean of the College of Music about the service and resource needs of music students.
- Marketing & Alumni Relations** *University of North Texas Choral Music Department* 2016 - 2018
 Managed UNT Choral Department social media which increased its viewership over 300% to 95,000 in the first school year, and 115,000 in the second year; created database to keep current information on employment and creative activity of alumni.
- Equipment Co-Chair** *Southwestern ACDA Conference* 2016
 Coordinated use of rehearsal, performance, and technology equipment for multiple venues, supervised teams for set-up throughout conference.
- Conducting Competition Selection Panel** *Southwestern ACDA Conference* 2016
 Adjudicated video screening submissions for the conference undergraduate conducting competition.
- American Choral Directors Association Chapter President** *Texas Tech University* 2015 - 2016
 Founded new student chapter, recruited active membership, set programming for meetings, invited guest lecturers, coordinated appropriations and travel to Divisional Conference.
- University of Missouri - Kansas City* 2006 - 2007
 Organized meetings, coordinated guest speakers and acted as faculty/student liaison, planned chapter trips to national convention in Miami, including university funding.
- Youth/Student Repertoire & Resources Chair** *Missouri Choral Directors Association* 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.

HONORS

Outstanding Choral Conducting Student	University of North Texas	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

SELECTED PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

Professional Choral Ensembles	Santa Fe Desert Chorale	2019, 2020
	The Cecilia Ensemble	2017
	San Antonio Chamber Choir	2017, 2020
	Simon Carrington Chamber Singers	2011 - 2012
	Spire Chamber Ensemble	2011 - 2012
	Collegium Vocale	2009 - 2010
Bass Soloist from “St. John Passion”	Austin Baroque Orchestra	2017
Pilate from “St. John Passion”	University of North Texas	2017
featured Baritone soloist from “Carmina Burana”	Texas Tech University	2016
Siméon from “L’enfant prodigue”	Texas Tech University	2015
Featured Soloist	First United Methodist Church, Coppel	2016 - 2018
	UNT Collegium Singers	2016 - 2019
	Texas Tech University Choir	2015
	St. John’s United Methodist Church, Lubbock	2014 - 2016
Continuo Harpsichord, 2nd chair	Baroque Orchestra, University of North Texas	2018 - 2019
Continuo Harpsichord	Faculty Recital, A-State University (COVID-19)	2020
Continuo Harpsichord	Recital, Las Vegas Baroque Festival (COVID-19)	2020

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Conductors Guild	2016 - present
Society for Research in Music Education	2013 - present
American Choral Directors Association	2005 - present

REFERENCES

Dr. Allen Hightower, Director of Choral Studies
 University of North Texas
 (806) 834-0577, allen.hightower@unt.edu

Dr. Richard Sparks, Professor Emeritus
 University of North Texas
 (940) 369-7407, richard.sparks@unt.edu

Prof. Richard Bjella, Director / Professor Emeritus
 San Antonio Chamber Choir / Texas Tech University
 (920) 427-6929, rick.bjella@gmail.com

Dr. Joshua Habermann, Director

Dallas Symphony Chorus / Santa Fe Desert Chorale
(415) 939-4514, j.habermann@dalsym.com

Dr. Charles Robinson, Professor of Music Education
University of Missouri - Kansas City
(816) 235-2930, robinsonc@umkc.edu

Dr. Julie Yu-Oppenheim, Co-Director of Choral Studies
Kansas State University
(940) 595-1183, julieyu@ksu.edu

* Events and projects which were cancelled or delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic are annotated using (COVID-19)

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