

# CHRISTOPHER BRANDT



605.366.1338



christopher.e.brandt@gmail.com



www.christopher-brandt.com

## EDUCATION

### DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS

Wind Band Conducting  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
May 3, 2019

### MASTER OF ARTS

Wind Band Conducting  
Sam Houston State University  
Aug 8, 2015

### BACHELOR OF ARTS

*Magna Cum Laude*  
Music Education, Music  
Performance (saxophone),  
Leadership (minor)  
University of Jamestown  
Dec 16, 2010

## PRIMARY INSTRUCTORS

### CONDUCTING

Dr. Carolyn Barber, Dr. Peter  
Eklund, Dr. Benjamin Schneider,  
Dr. Aaron McDermid,  
Dr. Tyler White

### SAXOPHONE

Dr. Benjamin Schneider,  
Dr. Bruce Ammann

## TEACHING AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### GRACELAND UNIVERSITY

*Director of Bands, Assistant Professor of Music (2019-Present)*

- Symphonic Band - Music Director  
Oversee all aspects of program including music selection, rehearsal, leadership selection, scheduling, recruiting, and performances.
- Jazz Ensemble - Music Director  
Oversee all aspects of program including music selection, rehearsal, leadership selection, scheduling, recruiting, and performances.
- Marching Yellowjackets  
Lead ensemble in visual and musical rehearsals, scheduling, performances, and recruitment.
- Music Courses  
Music Theory I, II, III, IV, Introduction to Music Technology, Secondary Music Methods, Beginning Conducting, Advanced Conducting, Brass Instructional Methods and Pedagogy, Woodwind Instructional Methods and Pedagogy, Applied Woodwind Lessons, Saxophone Ensemble
- Graceland Winds Honor Band - Musical Director  
Annual 2-day high school honor band featuring instrument masterclasses, recitals, rehearsals, and a final joint performance with the Graceland University Symphonic Band.

### MUSIC EDUCATORS JOURNAL - ADVISORY BOARD

*National Association for Music Education (2022-2026)*

Evaluate and provide recommendations on submissions of articles to be published in the *Music Educators Journal*, a quarterly, peer-reviewed publication of the *National Association for Music Education*. The appointment is a four-year term.

### LAMONI HIGH SCHOOL

*Interim Director of Bands (2021-2023)*

Instruct, rehearse, and lead high school band, junior high school band, and beginning bands in class and in performance.

### PERSHING WINDS

*Founder and Music Director (2017-2020)*

The Pershing Winds is a semi-professional wind ensemble comprised of students from all facets of the Glenn Korff School of Music that aspires to create expressive and meaningful performances of quality literature written for the wind band.

### UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN

*Doctoral Conducting Associate (2016-2019)*

Assist principle conductor of the Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band in administration of students and rehearsals, Associate Director of two university-wide concert ensembles (Campus Band), visual and musical assistant of 300-member Cornhusker Marching Band, lead Big Red Express in rehearsal and performances at NCAA division I basketball, and volleyball. Teach beginning conducting courses and assist in advanced conducting courses teaching basic conducting techniques, transposition fundamentals, score study techniques, and rehearsal techniques.

#### LINCOLN LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

*Adjunct Faculty* (2016-2018)

Assist director Michael Werner by leadings sectionals, private lessons, and other rehearsals throughout the band program.

#### WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

*Assistant Director of Bands* (2015-2016)

Instruct, rehearse, and lead Symphonic band, Concert band, and two Freshman bands in class and in performance. Conduct and rehearse competitive Marching band and pep band.

#### SIOUX FALLS PARKS AND RECREATION SUMMER YOUTH BAND

*Assistant Director* (2006, 2007, 2008, 2016)

Assist director, Mr. Robert Carlson, in the preparation of music and equipment, warm-up and rehearsal and performance of students as well as covering parts in performance as needed.

#### BRAINERD HIGH SCHOOL

*Associate Director of Bands* (2013-2015)

Instruct, rehearse, and lead Symphonic band, Concert band, and two Freshman bands in class and in performance. Conduct and rehearse fall marching band and pep band.

#### CROOKSTON HIGH SCHOOL

*Director of Bands* (2011-2013)

Instruct, rehearse, and administer a band program of 350 students. Lead the band students in class and in performance. Director of the High School Band (including Marching and Pep Bands), Jr. High Band, 6th Grade Band, and 5th Grade Band.

#### CARMEL HIGH SCHOOL

*Student Teaching* (Fall 2010)

Under the supervision of Mr. Richard Saucedo, Director of Bands.

#### ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL

*Saxophone, Marching, and Visual Assistant* (Summer 2006, 2007, 2009)

#### LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL

*Practicum* (Fall 2008)

Under the supervision of Mr. Robert Carlson, Director of Bands.

#### JAMESTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

*Assistant to the Director of Bands* (Fall 2007-2008)

Assist director, Mr. Brady Olson, in individual, small group, and full ensemble rehearsals.

#### TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Substitute Choral Director* (2007-2009)

Prepare and rehearse the choir in the absence of their regular director, Dr. Aaron McDermid.

### AWARDS AND HONORS

---

AMERICAN PRIZE, THIRD PLACE COMPOSITION IN WIND ENSEMBLE DIVISION - *Conductor*  
*An Immigrants Story* by Marat Sanatullo (May 2019).

A collaborative project between composer and conductor, the premier recording of the work received the Third Place American Prize in Composition 2019.

#### PI KAPPA LAMBDA

*Member Beta Chapter University of Nebraska-Lincoln (April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019)*

Honorary Music Society dedicated to the furtherance of music in education and education in music in colleges, universities, and other institutions of higher learning, which offer music degree programs in one or more fields.

#### KAPPA KAPPA PSI

*Honorary Member Epsilon Omega Chapter University of Nebraska-Lincoln (February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019)*

National Honorary Band Fraternity that advances college and university bands for the benefit of its members and society through dedicated service and support to bands, encouragement of musical growth, lifelong educational experiences, leadership opportunities, and recognition.

#### NATIONAL BAND ASSOCIATION YOUNG CONDUCTOR - *Semi-Finalist* (Summer 2017)

A national selection process that pairs young conductors with veteran conductor mentors in an intensive collaboration culminating in the premiere of new works from young composers.

#### HIXSON-LIED STUDY GRANT RECIPIENT

*Glenn Korff School of Music, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (Nov. 15, 2016)*

Student study grant of \$1,000 to support participation in the Northwestern University Conducting Symposium in Evanston, IL. Grant augmented by Glenn Korff School of Music award of \$500.

#### ARMY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

*United States Army (May 1, 2010, Oct. 9, 2010)*

Awarded for exemplary behavior, efficiency, and fidelity while serving as a member of the United States Army.

#### DEAN'S LIST OF OUTSTANDING SCHOLARS

*University of Jamestown (2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010)*

#### COLLEGE FELLOW - *Department of Music*

*University of Jamestown (May 1, 2010, Oct. 9, 2010)*

A limited number of outstanding junior and senior students are selected each year by the faculty for the distinction of College Fellow. Recipients are to be of exemplary character and must possess an overall cumulative grade point average of 3.3 or better as well as a grade point average of 3.50 or better in their majors. Fellows may tutor or teach under the direction of their department chair(s) and hold rank just below that of a college instructor.

#### ARMY RESERVE COMPONENT ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

*United States Army (Mar. 9, 2011)*

Awarded for exemplary behavior, efficiency, and fidelity while serving as a member of the United States Army Reserve.

#### NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

*United States Army (Aug. 8, 2008)*

#### VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

*Sioux Empire Red Cross (2006)*

## PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

---

### THE CHANGEOVER BOX: BEST PRACTICES ENSURING PROGRAM CONTINUITY THROUGH A DIRECTOR CHANGE

*Teaching Music Vol. 30, No. 2 (October 2022 ) p. 12-16.*

An exploration of best practices for ensuring program continuity through a director change in secondary schools. Drawn from the business world, the wisdom of music educators with decades of experience, and even the U.S. military, these strategies can provide a blueprint for the successful transition of a program from one director to another.

### STOLEN MUSIC: WIND BAND TRANSCRIPTIONS

*Iowa Music Educators Association Conference (November 20, 2021).*

Transcriptions, once a cornerstone of the wind band repertoire, are being programmed less and less. With the availability of original music increasing exponentially over the last 75 years, these great masterworks have been forgotten, relegated to collect dust in our libraries. All of this, unfortunately, at the expense of our students. Through this session we will examine some of the obstacles to performing transcriptions, explore the various educational benefits of their performance, and identify quality transcriptions that are accessible for all levels.

### IT'S JUST INTONATION: STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVING ENSEMBLE INTONATION

*Missouri Music Educators Association Conference (January 28, 2021).*

An exploration of techniques and strategies for improving ensembles intonation by incorporating prepared chorales, technology, and other resources. A survey of best practices for introducing various intonation concepts and identify tangible techniques that can be immediately instituted to improve ensemble instruction. A look at various technological devices and applications that can aid in ensemble instruction including Yamaha's Harmony Director and Tonal Energy.

### MUSIC CONTEST REFORM: RESTORING THE EDUCATIONAL VALUE OF MUSIC CONTEST

*The Instrumentalist Vol. 73, No. 4 (November 2018): p. 10-14, 38.*

The benefits of music contests have been largely minimized as a result of inconsistent standards across the U.S. and abroad, damaging emphasis placed on the final results rather than a process driven endeavor with judge comments providing guidance along the way, and poor judge training.

### CONTRADICTIONS - THE MUSIC OF DANIEL BALDWIN - *Conductor* (Summer 2017)

An album featuring the wind music of composer Daniel Baldwin. Recordings completed summer 2017.

### ESSENTIAL TRANSCRIPTIONS

*The Instrumentalist Vol. 71, No. 9 (April 2017): p. 18-24.*

"Over the past century an increasing emphasis has been placed on the performance of original works for band, resulting in fewer transcriptions being performed each year. This article seeks to identify the origin of this trend, assert the value of transcriptions in the band repertoire, and propose significant transcriptions worthy of performance."

## GUEST CONDUCTING, PERFORMANCES, & ADJUDICATIONS

---

### SIMPSON COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL HONOR BAND

*Indianola, IA (January 12, 2023)*

FEATURED SOLOIST - CENTRAL IOWA WIND ENSEMBLE

*Des Moines, IA* (March 6, 2022)

Williams/Bocook: *Catch Me if You Can*

BLUEGRASS CONFERENCE HIGH SCHOOL HONOR BAND

*Lamoni, IA* (March 26, 2020), *Diagonal, IA* (March 24, 2022)

DES MOINES PUBLIC SCHOOLS LARGE GROUP CONTEST

*Des Moines, IA* (April 21, 2020), (February 5, 2022)

SOUTH CENTRAL IOWA BANDMASTERS ASSOCIATION LARGE GROUP CONTEST

*Norwalk, IA* (March 14, 2020), (Feb 12, 2022)

LENOX JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL HONOR BAND

*Lenox, IA* (March 28, 2020)

TRENTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS LARGE GROUP CONTEST

*Trenton, MO* (March 10, 2020)

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA SYMPHONIC BAND

*Lincoln, NE* (December 6, 2018)

Giroux: *Shine*

DONALD A. LENTZ CONCERT BAND

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln* (April 26, 2018)

Spittal: *Celestial Song*, Buckley: *Doctor Who: Through Time and Space*, Prescott: *Time Circles*

LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL WIND ENSEMBLE

*Lincoln, NE* (Mar. 19-24, 2018)

Bernstein/Beeler: *Overture to Candide*, Mackey: *Sheltering Sky*, Sheldon: *Danzas Cubanas*, Filmore: *Klaxon March*, Hazo: *Sólas Ané*, Balmages: *Midnight on Main Street*

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN WIND ENSEMBLE

*Lincoln, NE* (March 7, 2018)

Salfelder: *Cathedrals*, Daugherty: *Bells for Stokowski*, Sanatullo: *Through my eyes: one immigrant's story*

JACK R. SNIDER CONCERT BAND

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln* (April 27, 2017)

Mahr: *Daydream*, Mackey: *Foundry*, Bryant: *Machine Awakes*

NEW MUSIC RECITAL

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln* (March 31, 2017)

Derek Molacek: *The War Never Ends*

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN WIND ENSEMBLE

*Lincoln, NE* (March 8, 2017)

Barnes: *Incantation and Dance*

SAXOPHONE CHOIR

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln* (2016-2017)

WINTER WINDS HONOR BAND

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln* (January 14, 2017, January 21, 2018)

Rehearsal Conductor Gould: *Ballad for Band*, Schmitt: *Selamlık*

WEST FARGO HIGH SCHOOL  
*West Fargo, ND (January 2-5, 2017)*

GRANVILLE HIGH SCHOOL  
*Granville, ND (March 4-8, 2015)*

## ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

---

FACULTY COMPENSATION COMMITTEE  
*Graceland University (2022-Present)*

NEXT VERSION OF GRACELAND: SCAFFOLDING - CHAIR  
*Graceland University (2019-Present)*

TEACHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
*Graceland University (2019-Present)*

Monitor progression of students in the elementary and secondary education programs. Tasks: Approves students for admission into teacher education program. Monitors probationary candidates and those for whom expressed concerns have been submitted. Approves students for student teaching placements. Receives student petitions and appeals in the education program.

CREATIVE ACTIVITIES & RESEARCH EXPERIENCES EVALUATOR  
*University of Nebraska-Lincoln (2016-2019)*

ASSOCIATE CONDUCTOR  
*451st Army Band, Ft. Snelling, MN (2008-2014)*

ASSOCIATE CONDUCTOR  
*University of Jamestown Pep Band, Jamestown, ND (Fall 2006-2010)*  
Lead the Jamestown College Pep Band in performance for football and basketball games.

ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR  
*University of Jamestown, Jamestown, ND (Fall 2006-2008)*  
Assist musical director, Dr. Richard Valentine, in all aspects of preparing the University of Jamestown orchestra and theatre members for numerous performances. These aspects include: rehearsing small and large ensembles independently, keeping notes on the progress of the ensemble(s), preparing part books, and assisting in the printing of the program.

ACCREDITATION ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE  
*University of Jamestown, Jamestown, ND (Fall 2008-2010)*

DRUM MAJOR  
*451st Army Band, Ft. Snelling, MN (2008-2014)*

ASSISTANT TEAM LEADER  
*451st Army Band, Ft. Snelling, MN (2008-2014)*

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

---

### ADVISORY BOARD - MUSIC EDUCATORS JOURNAL

*National Association for Music Education (2022-2026)*

Evaluate and provide recommendations on submissions of articles to be published in the *Music Educators Journal*, a quarterly, peer-reviewed publication of the *National Association for Music Education*. The appointment is a four-year term.

### CENTRAL IOWA WIND ENSEMBLE

*Des Moines, IA (2021-Present)*

Saxophonist

### HEART OF AMERICA WIND ENSEMBLE

*Kansas City, MO (2019-2021)*

Saxophonist

### 451ST ARMY BAND

*Ft. Snelling, MN (2008-2014)*

Associate Conductor, Assistant Team Leader, Senior Instrumentalist

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

---

### MISSOURI MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

Osage Beach, MO  
(2020, 2021, 2022)

### IOWA MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

Ames, IA  
(2019, 2020, 2021, 2022)

### THE MIDWEST CLINIC

Chicago, IL  
(2008, 2009, 2014, 2016, 2017, 2018)

### CONDUCTING SUMMIT

*University of Wisconsin (2017)*  
With Donald Hunsberger

### KIETH LOCKHART

*University of Nebraska (2017)*  
Conducting Masterclass Iowa Western  
Conductor's clinic  
With Col. Bruce Pulver (2017)

### WIND BAND INSTITUTE

*Concordia University (2009, 2010)*  
With Dr. Scott Jones, and  
Richard Saucedo

### CONDUCTING SYMPOSIUM

*University of Minnesota (2009)*  
With Craig Kirchhoff

### MINNESOTA MUSIC EDUCATORS CONFERENCE

*Minneapolis, MN*  
(2013, 2014, 2015)

### NEBRASKA MUSIC EDUCATORS CONFERENCE

*Lincoln, NE (2016, 2017, 2018)*

### COLORADO CONDUCTING SYMPOSIUM

*University of Colorado - Boulder (2018)*  
With Allen McMurray, Donald J. McKinney,  
Matthew Roeder, and Matthew Dockendorff

## MEMBERSHIPS

---

College Band Directors National Association (2016-Present)  
National Band Association (2007-Present)  
National Association for Music Education (2007-Present)  
Iowa Bandmasters Association (2019-Present)  
Minnesota Band Directors Association (2011-2015)  
Minnesota Music Educators Association (2011-2015)  
North Dakota Music Educators Association (2007-2011)

## REFERENCES

---

Available upon request.