

BRANDON C. DI NOTO

Composer | Conductor | Educator | Vocalist

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Education

- 2021 **M.M. Choral Music, University of Southern California Thornton School of Music**
Concentrations: Composition, Conducting & Music Education
Instructors:
Composition: Neal Desby and Frank Ticheli
Choral Conducting: Cristian Grases, Jo-Michael Scheibe, Tram Sparks and Nick Strimple
Orchestral Conducting: Larry Livingston
Voice: Mary Mattei Scheibe
- 2019 **B.A. Music, Point Loma Nazarene University**
Concentrations: Composition, Conducting & Vocal Performance
Instructors:
Composition: Victor Labenske
Choral Conducting: Daniel Jackson and Keith Pedersen
Orchestral Conducting: Philip Tyler
Voice: John Craig Johnson, Amy Mein and Michael Sokol
- 2019 **B.A. Managerial & Organizational Communication, Point Loma Nazarene University**
Concentrations: Marketing, Organizational Management

Professional Experience

Academic Appointments

- 2022 – Present **Assistant School Director**
Bach to Rock: America's Music School, Encinitas, CA
- 2021 – Present **K-12 Substitute Music Teacher**
Maranatha Christian Schools, San Diego, CA
- 2019 – 2021 **Associate Conductor & Teaching Assistant**, USC Thornton University Chorus
University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, Los Angeles, CA

Professional Experience – Continued

Academic Appointments – Continued

- 2017 – 2019 **Associate Conductor & Teaching Assistant**, Point Loma Nazarene University Orchestra
Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego, CA
- 2017 – 2019 **Associate Conductor & Teaching Assistant**, Point Loma Nazarene University Chorale
Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego, CA

Professional Appointments

- 2022 – Present **Assistant Conductor**, San Diego Opera
San Diego, CA
- 2021 – Present **Director of Choral Music**, Oceanside First Presbyterian Church and Preschool
Oceanside, CA
- 2021 – Present **Executive Development & Production Assistant**, Bach Collegium San Diego
San Diego, CA
- 2020 – Present **Founder & Artistic Director**, Pacific Harmonix
San Diego, CA

Other Relevant Employment History

- 2019 – 2021 **Cover Conductor**, USC Thornton Chamber Singers
University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, Los Angeles, CA
- 2015 – 2019 **Realtor®**, Di Noto Properties Team
Pacific Sotheby's International Realty, Rancho Santa Fe, CA
- 2010 – 2015 **Music & Theatre Instructor**
Maranatha Christian Schools, San Diego, CA

Composition Activities

Masterclasses Attended

- 2020 **Stephen Hartke**, Chair of the Composition Department at Oberlin Conservatory,
participated in a Masterclass and presented *Violin Concerto in Bb Major*, Los Angeles, CA

Composition Activities – Continued

Selected Commissioned Works

- 2022 **Azusa Pacific University**, Azusa, CA
Commissioned by Michelle Jensen, Conductor
Consorts of the Sun (Multi-Movement Work, SSATB Chorus & Chamber Orchestra)
UPCOMING
- 2022 **Tesoro High School**, Las Flores, CA
Commissioned by Keith Hancock, Conductor
Swing Low, Sweet Chariot (SSA) - **UPCOMING**
- 2022 **Mt. Carmel High School & Rancho Bernardo High School**, San Diego, CA
Commissioned by Marti Martinez & Lisa Friedrichs, Conductors
Flower Songs (Multi-Movement Work, SATB Chorus, Piano, Cello) - **UPCOMING**
- 2021 **Pacific Harmonix**, San Diego, CA
Commissioned & Premiered by Brandon C. Di Noto, Conductor
Seal My Heart in Love (SSAATTBB Chorus, A Cappella) – 5 Mins
- 2019 **Point Loma Nazarene University Chamber Orchestra**, San Diego, CA
Commissioned & Premiered by Jennifer Treptow, Violin Solo
Violin Concerto in Bb Major (3 Movements, Violin, Orchestra) – 27 Mins

*** A complete list of original compositions is available upon request**

Conducting Activities

Awards, Grants, Fellowships and Competitions

- 2020 Participant, USC Thornton School of Music Mentorship Program, a program matching USC students with professionals in the same field, was mentored by Grant Gershon, USC Thornton School of Music, Los Angeles, CA
- 2019 Recipient, Thornton School of Music Conducting Scholarship, USC Thornton School of Music, Los Angeles, CA

Conducting: Regional

- 2021 **“Mozart, *Cosí fan tutte*, K. 588”**; a four-production run of Mozart’s opera, serves as Assistant Conductor and conducts the offstage chorus

Conducting Activities – Continued

Conducting: Guest Clinics & Workshops

- 2022 **University of Miami Frost School of Music**
Clinic with the University of Miami Frost Chorale, workshopped *Civitas Sancti Tui* by Byrd and *Sing, My Child* by Quartel
- 2021 **Oceanside Presbyterian Church**
Clinic with the Oceanside Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir, workshopped *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* by Lutkin and *O Clap Your Hands* by McChesney
- JSerra Catholic High School**
Clinic with the JSerra Chorale, workshopped *The Star-Spangled Banner* arr. Smith & Clark
- 2019 **California State University: Fullerton**
Clinic with the CSU Fullerton University Singers: workshopped selections from *Carmina Burana* by Orff and *Vesperae solennes de confessore*, K. 339 by Mozart
- 2018 **Solana Beach Presbyterian Church**
Clinic & performance with the SBPC Chancel Choir, workshopped and conducted *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* by Rutter

Conducting: Pacific Harmonix

- 2021 **“Canticles & Carols on the Coast: A Holiday Choral Spectacular”**; a concert showcasing works related to the aforementioned title, conducted works by Britten, Hairston, Lauridsen, Smith-Moore, Walton, Wieck-Schumann, and others
- “Sing the Earth to Sleep: Songs of Morning, Elements & Evening”**; a concert showcasing works related to the aforementioned title and two world premieres, conducted works by Boulanger, Gibbs, Hailstork, Lauridsen, Rheinberger, Thompson, and others
- “Peace, Love & Joy Everlasting”**; a concert showcasing works related to the aforementioned title and two world premieres, conducted works by Lauridsen, Liszt, Mozart, and Wieck-Schumann
- 2020 **“Quarantunes”**; a concert showcasing works related to the COVID-19 Pandemic, conducted works by Barber, Hairston, Lauridsen, Rachmaninoff, Reger, Rheinberger, and Walton

Conducting: University of Southern California

- 2021 **“Virtual Spring Choral Festival”**; a concert showcasing the work of the USC Thornton School of Music Choral Ensembles, conducted *Under the Willow Tree* from *Vanessa*, Op. 32 by Barber with select members of the USC Thornton Chamber Singers

Conducting Activities – Continued

Conducting: University of Southern California – Continued

2020 “**Joint Conducting Recital**”; a concert showcasing the work of first year graduate students, conducted the third movement of *Chichester Psalms* by Bernstein and *Rorando coeli* by Vodnansky

Conducting: Point Loma Nazarene University

2019 “**All About Felix**”; a concert of works composed or inspired by Felix Mendelssohn, conducted *Symphony No. 2 in Bb Major “Lobgesang”*

2018 “**Handel’s Messiah**”; a performance of Handel’s masterpiece, prepared the university Chamber Orchestra for the performance

“**Idyll**”; a performance of Classical & Romantic era orchestral and concerti music, rehearsed Beethoven’s *Piano Concerto No. 4 in G Major*, Janacek’s *Idyll*, Mozart’s *Andante in C for Flute and Orchestra* and Saint-Saëns’ *Piano Concerto No. 2 in G Minor*

“**Scheherazade**”; a performance of orchestral pieces concluding with Rimsky-Korsakov’s masterpiece, conducted the Tchaikovsky *Serenade for Strings*

2017 “**Schubert’s Mass in G and Robert Ray’s Gospel Mass**”; a performance of the Schubert and Ray masses, prepared the university Chamber Orchestra for the performance

“**Handel’s Messiah**”; a performance of Handel’s masterpiece, prepared the university Chamber Orchestra for the performance

“**Viva Vivaldi**”; a performance of Vivaldi’s orchestral music, conducted the *Violin Concerto in A Minor* and the *Double Violin Concerto in A Minor*

*** A complete list of conducting repertoire is available upon request**

Masterclasses Attended

2020 Grant Gershon, Artistic Director of the Los Angeles Master Chorale, participated in a Masterclass and conducted *Arbolucu, te sequeste* by Chávez, Los Angeles, CA

2019 Jerry Blackstone, Choral Conductor and Lecturer, participated in a Masterclass and conducted *The Dark Eyed Sailor* by Vaughan Williams, Los Angeles, CA

Rodney Eichenberger, Choral Conductor and Lecturer, participated in a Masterclass and conducted *Barechu* by Rossi, Los Angeles, CA

Conducting Activities – Continued

Masterclasses Attended – Continued

2019 Jo-Michael Scheibe, Choral Conductor and Professor in the Department of Choral & Sacred Music at the USC Thornton School of Music, participated in a Masterclass and conducted *The Coolin* by Barber, Los Angeles, CA

Voice Activities

Awards, Grants, Fellowships and Competitions: Voice

2018 **Recipient**, Chester C. and Alice E. Crill Endowed Vocal Scholarship, Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego, CA

Recipient, Keith and Betty Pagan Endowed Scholarship for Outstanding Music Student of the Year, Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego, CA

2015 – 2019 **Recipient**, Department of Music Voice Scholarship, Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego, CA

Selected Choral Experience

2021 – Present **Sacra/Profana**, sung Tenor under Juan Carlos Acosta
San Diego, CA

2021 **High Holy Days Choir**, sung Tenor and acted as section leader under Myles Mayfield & Cantor William Tiep
Temple Solel, Encinitas, CA

2021 **Chancel Choir**, sung Tenor and acted as section leader under Dr. Keith Pedersen,
La Jolla Presbyterian Church, La Jolla, CA

2019 – 2021 **Chamber Singers**, sung Tenor II & Bass I under Dr. Jo-Michael Scheibe,
University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA

2015 – 2019 **Choral Union**, sung Tenor and acted as section leader under Dr. Keith Pedersen,
Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego, CA

2015 – 2019 **Concert Choir**, sung Tenor I and acted as section leader under Dr. Daniel Jackson,
Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego, CA

2017 **Bach Collegium San Diego**, sung Tenor under Dr. Ruben Valenzuela,
Bach Collegium San Diego, San Diego, CA

Voice Activities – Continued

Vocal Performances – Regional

- 2021 **Point Loma Nazarene University**, hired as a Tenor soloist in a performance of Handel's *Messiah*
- 2019 **Point Loma Nazarene University**, hired as a Tenor soloist in a performance of Handel's *Messiah*
- University of Southern California Thornton School of Music**, selected as the Tenor soloist in a performance of Pachelbel's *Nun Danket alle Gott*
- Point Loma Nazarene University**, selected as the Tenor soloist in a performance of J.S. Bach's *Actus Tragicus* and Britten's *Rejoice in the Lamb*
- Senior Voice Recital**, gave a 60-minute solo voice recital including works by Bernstein, Mendelssohn, Poulenc, Vaughan Williams, and others.
- Bernstein Centennial Concert**, selected as the Tenor soloist in an all Bernstein concert including selections from *Candide*, *Chichester Psalms*, *Mass*, *Trouble in Tahiti* & *West Side Story*
- 2018 **Point Loma Nazarene University**, selected as the Tenor soloist in a performance of Schubert's *Mass in G Major*
- Point Loma Nazarene University**, selected as a Tenor and Bass soloist in a performance of Handel's *Messiah*
- Junior Voice Recital**, gave a 30-minute solo voice recital including works by Bach, Donizetti, Handel, Mozart and others
- 2017 **Bach Collegium San Diego**, selected as one of four Tenors in a performance of Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass*
- 2016 **Point Loma Nazarene University**, selected as the Tenor soloist in a performance of Handel's *Messiah*

* A complete list of voice repertoire is available upon request

Masterclasses Attended

- 2019 **Ginger Costa-Jackson**, Opera Singer, participated in a Masterclass and sung *A Simple Song* by Bernstein, San Diego, CA
- 2018 **Dominic Chenes**, Opera Singer, participated in a Masterclass and sung *Die Forelle* by Schubert, San Diego, CA

Voice Activities – Continued

Recordings

- 2021 **Gregorian Meditations: Choral Works of Forgotten French Masters Desenclos and Langlais**, USC Thornton Chamber Singers, Jo-Michael Scheibe, director, sung Tenor II

Research Activity

Invited Presentations

- 2021 **“Irish Influences on Samuel Barber’s *Reincarnations*, Op. 16”**
University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, Los Angeles, CA – April 26
- 2020 **“Looking Back: A Fresh Perspective on Three Standard and Four Overlooked Choral Works – Lecture Recital”**
University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, Los Angeles, CA – October 23
- “The Choral Music of African American Composers”**
University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, Los Angeles, CA – October 7
- “The Choral Music of Sergei Prokofiev”**
University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, Los Angeles, CA – April 23
- 2019 **“The Choral Music of Heinrich Schütz”**
University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, Los Angeles, CA – December 5

Publications: Writings

- 2021 Dillane, Aileen; O’Malley, Michael; Neely, Daniel; and Spencer, Scott (eds). **“Captain Francis O’Neill Crowdsourcing Project.”** Paragraphs on Sgt. James Early by Brandon C. Di Noto. Irish Traditional Music Archive.

Selected Original Research

- 2021 **“Irish Influences on Samuel Barber’s *Reincarnations*, Op. 16”**
- 2020 **“The Choral Music of Alberto Ginastera”**
- 2019 **“An Annotated Guide to R. Vaughan Williams’ *Songs of Travel*, Movements II – IV”**

“The Importance and Significance of Handel’s English Oratorios”
- 2016 **“The Similarities of Gluck’s *Alceste* and Handel’s *Admeto*, Two Operas on the Same Libretto”**

Teaching

Elementary School Courses

Band (All Levels)

Middle School Courses

Band (All Levels)

Choir (All Levels)

Jazz Band

Theatre

High School Courses

Band (All Levels)

Choir (All Levels)

Jazz Band

Musical Theatre Production

Music Appreciation

Music Theory

Orchestra (All Levels)

Private Composition

Private Voice

Theatre

Collegiate Courses

Beginning Conducting

Choir (All Levels)

Choral Arranging

Choral Conducting (All Levels)

Choral Literature (Medieval Era to the 21st Century)

Choral Methods & Pedagogy

Instrumental Conducting (All Levels)

Introduction to Music

Music Administration & Materials

Music History (Medieval Era to the 21st Century)

Music Theory (All Levels)

Orchestra (All Levels)

Orchestration

Private Choral Conducting

Private Composition

Private Instrumental Conducting

Private Voice

Vocal Pedagogy

Vocology

Teaching – Continued

Collegiate Courses – Continued

World Music (General & Choral)

* **Concert Recordings, Lecture Recordings, and Syllabi available upon request**

Service

Service to Maranatha Christian Schools

2021 – Present **Committee Member**, Musical Audition Committee, responsible for auditioning and aiding in casting and admission for the elementary, middle and high school music ensembles and musical theatre productions

Service to Point Loma Nazarene University

2017 – 2019 **Committee Member**, The Vice Provost's Committee for Major Exploration, responsible for advising university leaders on how to help undergraduates choose a major

Service to the USC Thornton School of Music

2020 – 2021 **Committee Member**, Department of Choral & Sacred Music Graduate Student Audition Committee, responsible for advising the Choral & Sacred Music faculty on what to look for in the incoming graduate student auditions

Service to the San Diego Community

2010 – Present **Worship Leader**, The Church at Rancho Bernardo, Horizon Christian Fellowship, La Jolla Presbyterian Church, Oceanside First Presbyterian Church, Solana Beach Presbyterian Church and Westminster Presbyterian Church, responsible for leading congregations in song during weekly worship services

Professional Affiliations

Organizations

American Choral Directors Association (ACDA)

Chorus America

College Music Society (CMS)

References

* References available upon request