

# BRANDON CHASE DI NOTO

Conductor | Vocalist | Educator | Composer

## Education

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- In Progress     **D.M.A. Choral Music, University of Southern California Thornton School of Music**  
Major Field: Choral Music  
Academic Field: Musicology  
Minor Fields: Composition, Orchestral Conducting and Vocal Performance  
Instructors:  
    Composition: Donald Crockett and Veronika Krausas  
    Choral Conducting: Grant Gershon, Cristian Grases, Troy Quinn and Tram Sparks  
    Orchestral Conducting: Lucinda Carver and Larry Livingston  
    Voice: Jennifer Kampani and Derrick Lawrence
- 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  
    Vocal Coach: Melva Morrison  
    Voice: John Craig Johnson, Amy Mein and Michael Sokol
- 2019             **B.A. Managerial & Organizational Communication, Point Loma Nazarene University**  
Concentrations: Marketing, Organizational Management
- Independent     **Other Major Instructors**  
Composition: Susan LaBarr, Z. Randall Stroope, Dale Trumbore  
Choral Conducting: Michelle Jensen

## **Education – Continued**

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Independent **Other Major Instructors – Continued**  
Choral/Orchestral Conducting: Jo Anne Wasserman  
Opera Conducting: Bruce Stasyna  
Voice: Isabel Bayrakdarian

## **Professional Certifications**

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2024 **Kodály Pre-Certification Level II**  
Courses: Choral Conducting, Choral Experience, Pedagogy & Musicianship

## **Professional Experience**

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### **Academic Appointments**

2024 – Present **Teaching Assistant**  
Thornton School of Music, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA

Courses Taught:

Apollo Chorus (MUEN 308 / 508), 2024/25

Administrative Responsibilities:

Chamber Singers Tour Assistant, 2025 – Present  
Choral Ensemble Recruitment Lead, 2024/25  
Graduate Audition Coordinator, 2025 – Present  
Undergraduate Audition Coordinator, 2025 – Present  
Winter Concert Coordinator, 2025 – Present

2023 – Present **Adjunct Professor of Choral Music, Conducting, Musicology, Music Theory & Vocal Arts**  
Department of Music, Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA

Courses Taught/Ensembles Lead:

Diction for Singers (MUS 224)  
Bel Canto Women's Choir (MUS 246 / GMUS 588)  
Writing 3, Baroque, Classical & Early Romantic Music (MUS 352)  
Introduction to Conducting (MUS 361)  
Choral Conducting (MUS 362)  
Late Romantic & Music of the 20th Century (MUS 455)  
Advanced Analysis of Form & Style (GMUS 503)  
Conducting I, Choral (GMUS 509A)  
Vocal Literature A (GMUS 534)

## **Professional Experience – Continued**

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### **Academic Appointments – Continued**

2023 – Present **Adjunct Professor of Choral Music, Conducting, Musicology, Music Theory & Vocal Arts – Continued**

Department of Music, Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA

Administrative Responsibilities:

Choral Area Auditions Coordinator  
High School Choral Festival Coordinator  
Manage the APU Choirs YouTube Channel  
Organize recordings for all choral area performances

2023 – 2024 **Director of Choral & Vocal Ensembles**

Classical Academy High School, The Classical Academies, Escondido, CA

Courses Taught/Ensembles Lead:

Caiman Chorale  
Chamber Singers  
Men's Ensemble  
Women's Ensemble

Administrative Responsibilities:

Oversaw all activities relating to choral and vocal activities

2022 – 2023 **Interim Conductor & Instructor of Record**

Department of Music, University of California, Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA

Courses Taught/Ensembles Lead:

Singing Gauchos (MUS A 37M / 137M / 237M)

2022 **Assistant School Director**

Bach to Rock: America's Music School, Encinitas, CA

2021 **K-12 Substitute Music Teacher**

Maranatha Christian Schools, San Diego, CA

Courses Taught:

5th Grade Band  
Concert Band  
High School Ensemble Choir  
High School Worship Team  
Jazz Band  
Junior High Choir

## **Professional Experience – Continued**

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### **Academic Appointments – Continued**

2019 – 2021    **Associate Conductor**  
Thornton School of Music, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA

Courses Assisted:  
University Chorus (MUEN 307 / 507)

2017 – 2019    **Associate Conductor & Teaching Assistant**  
Department of Music, Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego, CA

Courses Assisted:  
Chamber Orchestra (MUP332)  
Chorale (MUP336)

### **Professional Appointments**

2022 – Present    **Assistant Director**  
Sterling Ensemble Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA

2023            **Assistant Conductor**  
Santa Barbara Choral Society, Santa Barbara, CA

2022 – 2023    **Sing! Children’s Choral Director**  
Music Academy of the West, Santa Barbara, CA

2022            **Assistant Conductor**  
San Diego Opera, San Diego, CA

2020 – 2022    **Founder & Artistic Director**  
Pacific Harmonix, San Diego, CA

2021 – 2022    **Executive Development & Production Assistant**  
Bach Collegium San Diego, San Diego, CA

2021 – 2022    **Director of Choral Music**  
Oceanside First Presbyterian Church and Preschool, Oceanside, CA

2019 – 2021    **Cover Conductor**  
USC Thornton Chamber Singers, University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, Los Angeles, CA

## Professional Experience – Continued

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### Other Relevant Employment History

2015 – 2019     **Realtor®**, Di Noto Properties Team  
Pacific Sotheby's International Realty, Rancho Santa Fe, CA

### Conducting Activities

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#### Awards, Grants, Fellowships and Competitions

2026             Conducting Fellow, Choral Arts Initiative PREMIERE|Project Festival, Irvine, CA

2025             Conducting Scholar, Chorus America Choral-Orchestral Conducting Academy, Los Angeles, CA

Conducting Fellow, Spire Chamber Ensemble Choral Conducting Institute, Kansas City, MO

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

2023             **“Mythologies”**; a live production of the GRAMMY-WINNING Album *Mythologies* by Danaë Xanthe Vlasse, featuring GRAMMY-WINNING Sopranos Hila Plitmann and Sangeeta Kaur, one of the rehearsal conductors who prepared the singers and instrumentalists for their performance in Huntsville, AL

**“Gala Concert”**; a fundraising concert for the Santa Barbara Choral Society featuring the 11-voice a cappella ensemble, VOCTAVE, one of the conductors who prepared the Santa Barbara Choral Society for the event

**“Eden”**; a touring production of mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato's album of the same name, one of the conductors who prepared the Sing! Children's Choir for the event on the song, *Seeds of Hope*

2022             **“Divine Encounters”**; a two-concert production of Schubert's *Mass in G Major* & Courtney's *Divine Encounter* in a collaboration between Oceanside & Solana Beach Presbyterian Churches, served as Conductor and conducted the Schubert

## **Conducting Activities – Continued**

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### **Conducting: Regional – Continued**

2022           **“Mozart, *Cosí fan tutte*, K. 588”**; a four-production run of Mozart’s opera, served as Assistant Conductor and conducted the offstage chorus

### **Conducting: Guest Clinics & Workshops**

2026           **WorldStrides Heritage Festival**  
Served as an adjudicator with WorldStrides Heritage Festivals; judged choral groups and provided onstage clinics, Anaheim, CA

2024           **Berean High School**  
Clinic with the Berean High School Advanced Choir; workshopped *Precious Lord, Take My Hand* by Thomas A. Dorsey, *My Life is in Your Hands* by Kirk Franklin, and *You Are My Refuge* by Michael John Trotta

2022           **University of San Diego Department of Music**  
Clinic with the USD Choral Scholars; workshopped *Steal Away* by Stacey V. Gibbs, *I Love You/What a Wonderful World* by Craig Hella-Johnson, and *My Heart Be Brave* by Marques L.A. Garrett

2021           **Oceanside Presbyterian Church**  
Clinic with the Oceanside Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir, workshopped *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* by Peter Lutkin and *O Clap Your Hands* by Kevin McChesney

2018           **Solana Beach Presbyterian Church**  
Clinic & performance with the SBPC Chancel Choir, workshopped and conducted *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* by John Rutter

### **Conducting: Azusa Pacific University**

2026           **“Soundscapes”**; the APU Bel Canto Women’s Choir & Men’s Chorale spring concert, conducted works by Boulanger, DiNoto, Krausas, LaBarr, Leek, Redford, Silvestri, and Vivaldi

**“Simple Gifts”**; the APU Chamber Singers winter concert, guest conducted *On Craig Ddu* by Brandon Chase Di Noto

2025           **“Celebrate Christmas”**; the APU Department of Music combined Christmas concert, served as chorus master, preparing the Bel Canto Women’s Choir to sing eight selections as part of the combined mass choir

## **Conducting Activities – Continued**

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### **Conducting: Azusa Pacific University – Continued**

- 2025      **“Fall Concert”**; the APU Choral Studies combined fall concert, conducted *Salmo 150* by Ernani Aguiar and *Grace Before Sleep* by Susan LaBarr with the Bel Canto Women’s Choir, and *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* by John Rutter with all six APU choirs
- “Of Earth, Within and Above”**; the APU Bel Canto Women’s Choir spring concert, conducted works by Diemer, Gershwin, Gimon, Gordon, Holst, Mendelssohn Hensel, Paulus, Thompson, a United States Premiere by Dale Trumbore and a world premiere by Brandon Chase Di Noto
- 2024      **“Choose Something Like a Star”**; the APU Choral Studies combined fall concert, conducted *Music Down in My Soul* by Moses Hogan (arr.), *Bist du bei mir* by J.S. Bach with the Bel Canto Women’s Choir; and prepared them for the combined performance of *Frostiana* by Randall Thompson
- “Charity & Love”**; the APU Bel Canto Women’s Choir spring concert, conducted works by Britten, Forrest, Hagenberg, Leek, Panufnik, Stroope, others, and a world premiere by Lauren Biggs
- 2023      **“Celebrate Christmas 2023”**; the APU Choral Studies combined holiday concert, conducted *Breath of Heaven* arranged by Roger Emerson with the Bel Canto Women’s Choir & women of Chamber Singers
- “Sir Charles Villiers Stanford: His Music & Legacy”**; the APU Choral Studies combined fall concert, conducted *The Sky in the Pool* by Thomas Frederick Dunhill, *Ave Maria* by Rebecca Clarke, and *Hymn to the Waters* by Gustav Holst with the Bel Canto Women’s Choir
- “Amazing Grace: Men’s Chorale Command Performance”**; the APU Men’s Chorale spring concert, conducted *Bound for Jubilee* by Joyce Elaine Eilers

### **Conducting: Sterling Ensemble Los Angeles**

- 2025      **“Recorder”**; Sterling Ensemble Los Angeles’ fall concert, conducted *Cui luna, sol et omnia*, by Francisco López Capillas
- “La Vie en Rose”**; Sterling Ensemble Los Angeles’ winter concert, conducted the World Premiere of *Music When Soft Voices Die*, by Brandon Chase Di Noto
- 2023      **“The Tide”**; Sterling Ensemble Los Angeles’ spring concert, conducted the World Premiere of *One Heart*, by GRAMMY-WINNING composer Danaë Xanthe Vlasse, featuring GRAMMY-WINNING soprano Sangeeta Kaur as the soloist

## **Conducting Activities – Continued**

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### **Conducting: University of Southern California**

- 2026      **“Brandon Chase Di Noto in Orchestral Conducting Recital”**; a Doctoral Orchestral Conducting Recital, conducted the re-premiere of *The Sea-Fairies*, Op. 59 by Amy Beach, *Appalachian Spring* by Aaron Copland, *Dances*, L. 103a by Claude Debussy, and *The Conspiracy* from *In Windsor Forest*, by Vaughan Williams
- 2025      **“Jubilee: A Choral Celebration”**; the USC Thornton Department of Choral and Sacred Music Holiday Concert, conducted *Deck the Hall* arranged by Reginald Unterseher and *Deep Peace* by Greg Knauf with all five USC Choirs
- “Heaven and Nature Sing”**; a Doctoral Choral Conducting Recital showcasing the work of two second-year doctoral students, conducted the world premiere of *On Craig Ddu* by Brandon Chase Di Noto, *O vos omnes (1603)* by Carlo Gesualdo, and excerpts from *Belshazzar*, HWV 61 by George Frideric Händel and *Chansons de la Vigne* by Joshua Shank
- “Apollo Chorus & Oriana Choir Spring 2025 Concert”**; a concert showcasing the work of the USC Thornton School of Music Apollo Chorus & Oriana Choir, conducted works by Arne, Barrett, Jackson King, and the Kingston Trio
- 2024      **“Readings and Carols 2024”**; a Christmas concert showcasing the work of all USC Thornton School of Music choral ensembles, prepared Apollo Chorus for all combined pieces, and conducted one audience sing along
- “Apollo Chorus & Oriana Choir Fall 2024 Concert”**; a concert showcasing the work of the USC Thornton School of Music Apollo Chorus & Oriana Choir, conducted works by Vaughan Williams, the Kingston Trio and Randall Thompson
- 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
- 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: Classical Academy High School**

- 2024      **“Spring Sing!”**; the CAHS Choral & Vocal Department end of year concert, conducted works by Hamlich, Keen, Monteverdi, Mozart, Strimple, and a world premiere by Brandon Chase Di Noto

## **Conducting Activities – Continued**

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### **Conducting: Classical Academy High School – Continued**

- 2024            **“Frostiana: Men’s & Women’s Ensemble Showcase”**; the CAHS Choral & Vocal Department early spring concert, conducted *Frostiana* by Thompson and works by Bennet, Brahms, and DuFay
- 2023            **“Winter Wonderful 2023”**; the CAHS Choral & Vocal Department holiday concert, conducted works by Barber, Bonds, Brahms, DuFay, Hogan, Leek, Persichetti, Rossi, Schumann, and others

### **Conducting: SING! Children’s Choir**

- 2022            **“Winter Concert”**; a concert showcasing works related to the aforementioned title, conducted *Haida*, by Henry Leck

### **Conducting: University of California: Santa Barbara**

- 2022            **“Choose Something Like a Star”**; a concert showcasing works related to the aforementioned title, conducted works by Adam, J.S. Bach, Hairston, and others with the UCSB Singing Gauchos

### **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: 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”*

## **Conducting Activities – Continued**

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### **Conducting: Point Loma Nazarene University – Continued**

- 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**

- 2025      **Malcolm J. Merriweather**, GRAMMY-nominated Choral Conductor, Director of the New York Philharmonic Chorus, Music Director of New York City’s The Desoff Choirs and Orchestra., and Chair of Music at Brooklyn College; participated in a Masterclass and conducted *Psalm 61* by Robles, Los Angeles, CA
- 2023      **Anton Armstrong**, Choral Conductor and Professor in the Department of Music at St. Olaf College, participated in a Masterclass and conducted *Sing O Ye Heavens* by Handel, Azusa, CA
- 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**

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### **Masterclasses Attended – Continued**

2019        **Jo-Michael Scheibe**, Choral Conductor and Emeritus 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

### **Recordings**

2026        **She**, a demo recording of the composition, “She” by Rachele Bunch with Daniel Schreiner, for Walton Music with the Azusa Pacific University Bel Canto Women’s Choir

## **Voice Activities**

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### **Awards, Grants, Fellowships and Competitions: Voice**

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

2018        **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**

2025 – Present    **Chamber Singers**, sung Baritone and acted as Bass section leader under Dr. Cristian Grases  
University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA

2025 – Present    **Oratorio Choir**, sung Bass under Dr. Michelle Jensen  
Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA

2023 – Present    **Chamber Singers**, sung Baritone under Dr. Michelle Jensen  
Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA

2022 – Present    **Sterling Ensemble**, sung Baritone under Dr. Michelle Jensen  
Los Angeles, CA

2024 – 2025        **Chamber Singers**, sung Baritone under Dr. Tram Sparks  
University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA

## Voice Activities – Continued

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### Selected Choral Experience – Continued

- 2021 & 2023    **High Holy Days Choir**, sung Tenor & Baritone, and acted as section leader under Myles Mayfield & Cantor William Tiep  
Temple Solel, Encinitas, CA
- 2022 – 2023    **Santa Barbara Choral Society**, sung Tenor II and acted as section leader under Jo Anne Wasserman  
Santa Barbara, CA
- 2021 – 2022    **Sacra/Profana**, sung Tenor & Bass under Juan Carlos Acosta, Aaron Burgett & Krishan Oberoi  
San Diego, 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
- 2017            **Bach Collegium San Diego**, sung Tenor under Dr. Ruben Valenzuela  
Bach Collegium San Diego, San Diego, 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

### Vocal Performances – National/International

- 2023            **National Collegiate Choral Organization Conference**, performed with the Azusa Pacific University Chamber Singers under the direction of Dr. Michelle Jensen
- Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod**, competed for Choir of the World & Pavarotti Trophy, sung Bass I and in a solo quartet with the Azusa Pacific University Chamber Singers under the direction of Dr. Michelle Jensen
- Daniel Jackson Conducts in Carnegie Hall**, performed and served as Tenor II section leader with current and alumni Point Loma Nazarene University Concert Choir singers under the direction of Dr. Daniel Jackson
- American Choral Director’s Association National Conference**, performed with Sterling Ensemble Los Angeles under the direction of Dr. Michelle Jensen

## Voice Activities – Continued

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### Vocal Performances – Regional

- 2025      **LA Phil Sounds About Town**, performed Beethoven's *Choral Fantasy*, Op. 80 with the USC Thornton Symphony & Chamber Singers under the direction of Carl St. Clair
- 2024      **LA Phil Noon to Midnight Festival**, performed Ellen Reid's *Oscillations: 100 Years and Forever* with the USC Chamber Singers under the direction of Dr. Tram Sparks
- American Choral Director's Association Western Division Conference**, performed with Sterling Ensemble Los Angeles under the direction of Dr. Michelle Jensen
- 2022      **Point Loma Nazarene University**, hired as a Tenor soloist in a performance of Handel's *Messiah*
- San Diego Comic-Con 2022**, selected as one of sixteen singers to sing for the preview of *The Lord of the Rings: The Rings of Power* Amazon Prime TV Show with series composer, Bear McCreary, conducting
- 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 *Gottes Zeit ist die allerbeste Zeit* 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*

## Voice Activities – Continued

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### Vocal Performances – Regional – Continued

- 2018        **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

### Recordings

- 2024        ***In the Bleak MidWinter - Single***  
Sterling Ensemble Los Angeles, Dr. Michelle Jensen, director, sung Bass I
- Echoes of Grace: Choral Music of Patti Drennan***  
Sterling Ensemble Los Angeles, Dr. Michelle Jensen, director, sung Bass I
- American Choral Director's Association Western Division Conference 2024 (LIVE)***,  
Sterling Ensemble Los Angeles, Dr. Michelle Jensen, director, sung Bass I
- 2023        ***National Collegiate Choral Organization Conference 2023 (LIVE)***, Azusa Pacific University Chamber Singers, Los Angeles, Dr. Michelle Jensen, director, sung Bass I
- American Choral Director's Association National Conference 2023 (LIVE)***, Sterling Ensemble Los Angeles, Dr. Michelle Jensen, director, sung Bass I
- 2021        ***Gregorian Meditations: Choral Works of Forgotten French Masters Desenclos and Langlais***, USC Thornton Chamber Singers, Dr. Jo-Michael Scheibe, director, sung Tenor II

## Composition Activities

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### Awards, Grants, Fellowships and Competitions

- 2026      **ACDA Western Division Conference Reading Session**, selected as a composer in the Western Division ACDA Reading Session, the composition *The Wave*, was featured, San Jose, CA
- 2026      **Call for Scores**, selected as a composer in Stare at the Sun's third annual Call for Scores event, premiered *The Blue Bird*, with Dr. A.J. Keller, artistic director, Chicago, IL
- 2024      **PREMIERE|Project Festival**, participated as a Fellow in Choral Arts Initiative's Annual Summer Festival with faculty members Dale Trumbore, Derrick Skye and Matthew Lyon Hazzard, Irvine, CA

### Selected Commissioned Works

- 2026      **Sing On**, commissioned by Providence High School for the Providence Singers, Marisa Rawlins-Bradfield, Conductor, Burbank, CA
- 2025      **The Wave**, commissioned by the Long Beach Youth Chorus, Harlee Balajadia, Artistic Director, Long Beach, CA

### 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

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

## Research Activity

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### Invited Presentations

- 2023      **"A Brief Analysis of *Gondoliera* by Clara Schumann"**  
Azusa Pacific University Department of Music, Azusa, CA – October 23
- "Post-Tonal Choral Repertoire: History, Analyzation and Preparation"**  
Azusa Pacific University Department of Music, Azusa, CA – April 13 & 18
- 2021      **"Irish Influences on Samuel Barber's *Reincarnations*, Op. 16"**  
University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, Los Angeles, CA – April 26

## Research Activity – Continued

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### Invited Presentations – Continued

- 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

- 2023            **“Sir Charles Villiers Stanford and His Legacy.”** Program notes for Azusa Pacific University Chamber Singers’ performance at the 2023 NCCO Biennial Conference. Program notes on Stanford’s *The Train & Beati quorum via*; Coleridge-Taylor’s *The Evening Star*; and Vaughan Williams’ *Three Shakespeare Songs* by Brandon Chase Di Noto.
- “Stories we Should Tell Program Notes.”** Program notes for Sterling Ensemble Los Angeles’ performance at the 2023 ACDA National Conference. Program notes on Trumbore’s *Lodestar* and Coleridge-Taylor’s *Summer is gone* by Brandon Chase Di Noto.
- 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.

### Publications: Editor

- 2023            **“A Physiological Approach to Teaching Conducting.”** A Dissertation written by Dr. Michelle Jensen in partial fulfillment of the D.M.A. in Choral Music at the USC Thornton School of Music. Edited and formatted by Brandon Chase Di Noto.

### Selected Original Research

- 2021            **“Irish Influences on Samuel Barber’s *Reincarnations*, Op. 16”**
- 2020            **“The Choral Music of Alberto Ginastera”**

## Research Activity – Continued

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### Selected Original Research – Continued

- 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**”

## Service

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### Service to Azusa Pacific University

2023 – Present    **Committee Member**, Department of Music Undergraduate Student Audition Committee, responsible for presiding over undergraduate voice area auditions

### Service to Music Academy of the West

2022 – 2023    **Sub-Committee Member**, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee, responsible for assisting Music Academy of the West leadership with responses and initiatives to increase DEI resources throughout the campus and programs

### Service to the National Collegiate Choral Organization

2026 – Present    **National Board Member**, responsible for advising the NCCO Executive Board on changes or adjustments to the policies, structure, and governance

### Service to Point Loma Nazarene University

2022 – Present    **Graduate Thesis Committee Member**, PLNU School of Education, responsible for advising music education graduate students on their final research project/thesis

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 – Continued**

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### **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

### **Service to the Santa Barbara Community**

2022 – 2023 **Guest Worship Leader & Singer**, Coast Community Church of the Nazarene and San Roque Catholic Church, responsible for leading congregations in song during weekly worship services

## **Professional Affiliations**

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### **Organizations**

American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) – Member  
American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP) – Member/Writer  
Chorus America – Member  
College Music Society (CMS) – Member  
National Collegiate Choral Organization (NCCO) – National Board Member  
Recording Academy (GRAMMYS) – Voting Member

## **References**

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\* References available upon request

## References

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**Dr. John Burdett, Department of Music, Azusa Pacific University**

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**Phone:** (626) 780-6504

**Position:** Associate Professor, Chair of the Department of Music

**Relationship:** Supervisor

**Dr. Cristian Grases, Department of Choral & Sacred Music, USC Thornton School of Music**

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**Phone:** (786) 879-1010

**Position:** Professor, Chair of the Department of Choral & Sacred Music

**Relationship:** Mentor; Supervisor; USC Chamber Singers Conductor

**Dr. Michelle Jensen, Department of Music, Azusa Pacific University & Sterling Ensemble Los Angeles**

**Email:** [mjensen@apu.edu](mailto:mjensen@apu.edu)

**Phone:** (626) 833-9050

**Position:** Associate Professor, Director of Choral Studies & Graduate Choral Studies

**Relationship:** Mentor; Supervisor; Sterling Ensemble Los Angeles, APU Chamber Singers & Oratorio Choir Conductor

**Dr. Nicole C. Lamartine, Department of Music, Central Washington University**

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**Position:** Director of Choral Activities

**Relationship:** Mentor

**Professor Christopher Russell, Department of Music, Azusa Pacific University**

**Email:** [cprussell@apu.edu](mailto:cprussell@apu.edu)

**Position:** Associate Professor, Former Chair of the Department of Music

**Relationship:** Former Supervisor

**Dr. Jo-Michael Scheibe, Department of Choral & Sacred Music, USC Thornton School of Music**

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**Position:** Emeritus Professor of Practice

**Relationship:** Mentor; Former Choir Director & Professor

## References – Continued

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### **Dr. John E. Simons, Palm Beach Atlantic University**

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**Position:** Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

**Relationship:** Former Supervisor; and Choir Director

### **Dr. Tram Sparks, Department of Choral & Sacred Music, USC Thornton School of Music**

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**Position:** Professor of Practice

**Relationship:** Mentor; Professor, Masters Thesis Advisor and Former Choir Director

### **Dr. Shawna Cross Stewart, Conservatory of Music, Biola University**

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**Position:** Director of Choral Studies

**Relationship:** Colleague

### **Dale Trumbore**

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**Phone:** (973) 462-7230

**Position:** Composer, Author

**Relationship:** Mentor; Colleague

### **Dr. Ruben Valenzuela, Bach Collegium San Diego**

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**Phone:** (760) 715-7956

**Position:** Founder & Artistic Director

**Relationship:** Mentor; Former Supervisor

**\* Additional References available upon request**