

# TANNER LEONARDO

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## PROFESSIONAL STATEMENT

I'm dedicated to fostering an inclusive and equitable learning environment where diversity is celebrated. I stay informed about evolving educational practices and cultural shifts to better support my students. Guiding students to discover their passions and reach their goals is what I love most about teaching. My goal is to empower every student to realize their full potential.

## EDUCATION

Doctor of Musical Arts <i>University of Kentucky</i>	Projected Spring 2024
Master of Music <i>Morehead State University</i>	Spring 2020
Bachelor of Music <i>University of Louisville</i>	Spring 2018

## TEACHING

Texas A&M University Commerce <i>Adjunct Professor of Percussion</i>	Commerce, TX August 2022 – Present
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- Taught applied lessons to music majors and non-music majors at the undergraduate and graduate levels
- Percussion Ensemble II – Premiered *catharsis* by Tanner Leonardo
- Percussion Ensemble III – Worked directly with composer Dr. James Vilseck on his composition *Starfall*
- Experimental Music Ensemble – Worked with composer Anders Åstrand on his composition *Sangelstainen*
- Many percussion ensemble [Performances](#) with extensive use of multimedia, lighting, audio tracks, and other modern technology
- Music Technology course redesign and implementation: Each student is guided to make their own website, resumé, audio recordings, video production, digital portfolio, composition and work with Artificial Intelligence.
- Led numerous students to success on Junior, Senior, and Graduate recitals.
- Assisted student, Bao Tran, to win the 2023 Black Swamp Snare Drum Competition

- Provided recording and production for Percussion Ensemble I to win the 2023 Percussive Arts Society International Convention's International Percussion Ensemble Contest
- Marching Band – Drumline and Front Ensemble Education, Audio Engineering and Student Intern Education
- Taught lessons in DFW to students in middle and high school, achieving success at recruiting for the university and placing students in all-region and all-state ensembles.

#### UNIVERSITY COURSES TAUGHT

Music Technology MUS 310  
 Percussion Ensemble II MUS 100  
 Percussion Ensemble III MUS 100  
 Minor Applied Percussion MUS 151  
 Restricted Applied Percussion MUS 149  
 Principal Applied Percussion MUS 152  
 Principal Applied Percussion MUS 352  
 Senior Recital MUS 453  
 Junior Recital MUS 353  
 History of Rock and Roll MUS 1309  
 MUS 217 Percussion Methods

#### TAMUC Student and Ensemble Achievements

- Percussion Ensemble I – Percussive Arts Society International Percussion Ensemble Competition Winner
- Marching percussion students achieving contracts with top Drum Corps (Blue Devils, Santa Clara Vanguard, Cavaliers, Troopers, Mandarins, and more)
- Recruitment and audition entries for percussion area have increased to the highest levels in the history of the program
- Undergraduate Student won the 2023 Black Swamp Snare Drum Competition – College Category
- Current and former students acquiring industry specific employment and professional success
- Ensembles regularly collaborate with numerous composers and educators on select compositions and professional endeavors
- Current and former students acquiring positions in DCI and WGI ensembles as performers, educators and audio engineers

- Educator, ensemble coordinator, and production supervisor for music production
- Educated individual and ensemble students to achieve a high quality music production
- Supervised the production of musical and visual elements, ensuring cohesiveness and high performance standards
- Ensemble coordinator to help facilitate the relationship between staff and students
- Maintained a large inventory of percussion and administrative equipment
- Facilitated a performance tour of the Midwestern USA
- Recruited over 200 KY, IN, OH, and TN students to audition for 38 performing spots
- Facilitated a staff of 30 professionals including educators, admin, and staff
- Created grant proposals and fundraising of over \$150,000 donations (in-kind and monetary)
- Formed and maintained industry relationships for endorsements and professional growth

#### RESEARCH

*A Spectral Analysis of Keyboard Instruments*

December 2023

*Vibraphone Bars with Emphasis on Mallet Choice and Overtone Projection*

- Met with performer Anders Åstrand and Vic Firth Lead Mallet Designer - Tim Sepe
- Recorded different vibraphones with Anders Åstrand Signature mallets
- Worked on mallet design description and homogenizing mallet construction vernacular language
- Discussed future international trips for spectral analysis demonstration and the effects the research will have on the industry
- Compiled a document of over 70 pages of mallet transient recordings and descriptions.

Recording Tips for Video-Auditions

November 2023

*Premiered at 2023 Percussive Arts Society International Convention*

- Created a resource for students to see best practices of recording techniques for percussion instruments
- Experimented with different modern technology to find accessible, industry standard practices
- Gave an in-person clinic for TAMUC students to see best recording practices

- Recorded successful graduate school auditions for students to achieve acceptance past video-rounds
- Compiled research into one video for students to use as a template

[Interdisciplinary Hands – By Jeff Ausdemore co. Produced by Tanner Leonardo](#) November 2023

*Premiered at 2023 Percussive Arts Society International Convention*

- Compiled a resource (over two hours) of snare drumming technique description and performance from interdisciplinary performers
- Worked as co-producer with Jeff Ausdemore to determine content, pacing, and style of the resource
- Project included: Jim Riley (Rascall Flats – Drummer), Jeff Prosperie (Hellcats – Principal Drummer), Josh Jones (Grant Park Festival Orchestra – Percussionist), Michael Eagle (Rhythm Monster – Founder & CEO), Brendan Mason (Connecticut State Junior Snare Drum Champion), James Catherall (Blue Knights – Sound Designer), Jeff Ausdemore (StryveMind – Founder & CEO)

Virtual Ensembles! In a Post-Covid World

November 2021

*Premiered at 2021 Percussive Arts Society International Convention*

- Researched and projected the use of “virtual ensemble” technology for a post-pandemic musical world
- Produced a one hour resource to guide viewers on how to create virtual ensembles for their own organizations
- Established a place for musicians to understand audio and video editing software, its capabilities, and practical utilizations

#### SERVICE

WGASC Indoor Percussion – Music Judge  
San Diego, CA

March 2024

WGASC Indoor Percussion – Music Judge  
Oceanside, CA

March 2024

CWEA Indoor Percussion – Music Judge  
Charlotte, NC

February 2024

SERVICE (Continued)

<i>Time Stream</i> by David Maslanka, arr. Brian Zator <i>Original Maslanka Transcription &amp; Engraving</i> , World Premiere by TAMUC	November 2023
StryveMind Percussion Director Symposium <i>PowerOn</i> Guest Clinician	June 2023
WGASC Indoor Percussion – Music Judge WGASC Championships in Las Vegas, NV	April 2023
Percussive Arts Society International Conference University Student Committee Panel Discussion Member – <i>Career: “Ask a Professional!”</i>	November 2022
PreSonus Education Online Blog <i>Using PreSonus StudioOne for Virtual Ensembles</i>	September 2021
Yamaha Educator’s Suite Online Blog <i>8 Cost-Effective Tips to Improve Your Recordings</i>	January 2021
<i>Casa Jamz</i> – For Flexible Percussion Ensemble by Tanner Leonardo Published work – World Premiere by Conservatoire de France, Grasse France	January 2020
<i>FUBAR Through the Years</i> - Morehead State University Virtual Ensemble Virtual Ensemble Coordination and Presentation – 30,000+ views	September 2020
KMEA District 12 All Region Percussion Music Judge Goshen, KY	November 2019
Morehead State University – Faculty Gala Performance <i>Sadie’s Birthday Adventures</i> by Amanda Harberg	March 2018
Percussive Arts Society KY Day of Percussion Logistics Coordination & Facilitation	March 2018

SERVICE (Continued)

KMEA District 12 Honors Percussion Ensemble Conductor February 2018  
World Premiere – *BeatBox* by Tanner Leonardo

CLINICIAN – *Blended Sounds in a Percussion Ensemble*

Crossmen Drum & Bugle Corps – Austin, TX December 2023  
Lake Highlands High School – Dallas, TX October 2023  
George Rogers Clark High School – Winchester, KY February 2022  
Adair County High School – Colombia, KY July 2021  
INOV8 Winter Percussion – Evansville, IN December 2019  
Summit High School – Spring Hill, TN June 2019  
Music City Drum & Bugle Corps May 2019  
Madison Consolidated High School – Madison, IN September 2017  
Iuka High School – Iuka, MS June 2014

[A/Tonal Ensemble](#) PERFORMANCES

*Percussion Performer A/Tonal Chamber Ensemble* – New Albany, IN 2015-Present

- Multiple World-Premieres and Group Commissions
- 2019 Ensemble-in-Residence University of Louisville

*Christmas Carols Together At Home* December 23, 2020  
University of Louisville New Music Concert – Louisville KY November 9, 2019  
21c Museum – Louisville KY November 10, 2019  
Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts – Louisville KY May 18, 2019  
University of Louisville Performing Artist Residency – Louisville KY March 25, 2019  
21c Museum – Louisville KY November 19, 2018  
The Piano Shop – The Opening Experience – Louisville KY September 20, 2018  
Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts – Louisville KY May 20, 2018  
Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts – Louisville KY April 2, 2017  
dReamland – Louisville KY November 13, 2016  
WUoL Studios, Live Radio Performance – Louisville KY July 13, 2016

## ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCES

<i>Music of John Cage</i> – Lecture Recital	2023
<i>Experiment All Duo Recital</i> – Chamber Recital	2023
DMA Solo Recital – Lexington, KY – Works by Cage, Perez, Akiho, Wahlund	2021
Master of Music Solo Recital – Morehead, KY – Works by Bach, Novotney, Lang, Samuels	2020
Owensboro Symphony Orchestra – Owensboro, KY – <i>Percussion Performer</i>	2019
Chamber Recital – Morehead, KY – Works by Hollo, Treuting, Samuels	2019
<i>Jamey Aebersold's Jazz Workshop</i> – Dave Stryker Ensemble – Vibraphone Performer	2017
Cave Run Symphony Orchestra – Morehead, KY – <i>Percussion Performer</i>	2018-2020
Evansville United Methodist Church – Evansville, IN – <i>Service Percussionist</i>	2018-2019
Vern Riffe Center for the Arts – Portsmouth, OH – <i>Percussion Performer</i>	2019
Vern Riffe Center for the Arts – Portsmouth, OH – <i>Steel Drum Performer</i>	2019
Senior Percussion Recital – Louisville, KY – Works by Leonardo, Maslanka, Evans, Hollo	2018
Louisville Orchestra – <i>Percussion Performer</i> – <i>Natural History</i> by Michael Gordon	2018
Junior Percussion Recital – Louisville, KY – Works by Brun, Cage, Shirley, Stout	2017
Louisville Opera – <i>Percussion Performer</i> – <i>Appalachian Spring</i> by Aaron Copland	2017
Louisville Opera – <i>Percussion Performer</i> – <i>Le docteur Miracle</i> by Georges Bizet	2016
Second Presbyterian Church of Christ – Louisville, KY – <i>Worship Drummer &amp; Service Percussionist</i>	2017-2021
St. Paul United Methodist Church – Louisville, KY – <i>Worship Drummer</i>	2015-2020
KMEA Convention – Louisville, KY – <i>School Out Loud</i> by Dr. Josh Smith	2016
Louisville Opera – <i>Percussion Performer</i> – <i>Die Zauberflöte</i> by W.A. Mozart	2015
1200 – Rap Artist – <i>Hand Drum Accompaniment</i> – WFPK Waterfront Performance	2015
Louisville Winds – Nan Moore, Conductor – Louisville, KY – <i>Percussion Performer</i>	2014-2018

## WORLD PREMIERE PERFORMANCES / RECORDINGS

<i>Catharsis</i> for Percussion Ensemble by Tanner Leonardo	2023
<i>Going Home</i> by Evelyn Glennie	2021
<i>Adagio from Symphony no 3.</i> (1995) by Krzysztof Penderecki *US Premiere	2018
<i>Comes Around</i> (2017) by Fred Speck	2018
<i>Intrusive Thoughts for Orchestra</i> by Cullen Murphy	2017
<i>Encompass</i> by Tyler Taylor	2017
<i>Nazca Lines</i> – Journeys for Percussion by Marc Satterwhite	2016

<i>Icarus</i> for orchestra (2015) by Jessica Kingery	2015
<i>Searching for America</i> by Raymond Horton	2014
<i>Cello Concerto</i> by Witold Lutaslawski (Paul York, Cello – Recording)	2014

#### SOUND DESIGNER

Elevate Indoor Winds – Indianapolis, IN	2023-Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WGI World Class</li> </ul>	
Bourbon County High School – Paris, KY	2021-Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2021 &amp; 2023 BOA Grand Nationals Champions</li> <li>• 2022 &amp; 2023 KMEA Class AAAA State Champion</li> </ul>	
Lafayette High School – Lexington, KY	2019-Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2021 BOA Super Regional Champion</li> <li>• 2019, 2021, &amp; 2023 KMEA Class AAAAA State Champion</li> </ul>	
West Mesquite High School – Mesquite, TX	2023-Present
Clear Creek High School – League City, TX	2023-Present
Eastern High School – Louisville, KY	2022
Milford High School – Milford, OH	2019-2021
Paul Laurence Dunbar High School – Lexington, KY	2019-2022

#### MARCHING PERCUSSION ARRANGER

Bourbon County High School – Paris, KY	2021-Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2021 &amp; 2023 BOA Grand Nationals Class A Champions</li> <li>• 2022 &amp; 2023 KMEA Class AAAA State Champion</li> </ul>	
Lafayette High School – Lexington, KY	2019-Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2021 BOA Super Regional Champion</li> <li>• 2019, 2021, &amp; 2023 KMEA Class AAAAA State Champion</li> </ul>	
Eastern High School – Louisville, KY	2022
Paul Laurence Dunbar High School – Lexington, KY	2021-2022
Conner High School – Hebron, KY	2021
Corydon Central High School Indoor Percussion – Corydon, IN	2019-2020
Grayson County High School Indoor Percussion – Grayson County, KY	2019
Morehead State University – Morehead, KY	2019
Atherton High School – Louisville, KY	2017

North Oldham High School – Goshen, KY	2014-2018
AUDIO ENGINEER	
Blue Knights Drum & Bugle Corps – Denver, CO	2024
Phantom Regiment Drum & Bugle Corps – Rockford, IL	2023
Lake Highlands High School – Dallas, TX	2023
Sherman High School – Sherman, TX	2023
West Mesquite High School – Mesquite, TX	2022-2023
Texas A&M University Commerce – Commerce, TX	2022-Present
University of North Texas – Denton, TX	2022-Present
Troopers Drum & Bugle Corps – Casper, WY	2021-2023
Lafayette High School – Lexington, KY	2019-Present
Milford High School – Milford, OH	2019-2021
Adair County High School – Adair, KY	2019
Paul Laurence Dunbar High School – Lexington, KY	2019-2021
Louisville Male – Louisville, KY	2018
North Oldham High School – Goshen, KY	2014-2018

#### ADDITIONAL PROJECTS

Royse City High School Percussion Ensemble Recordings	2024
<a href="#">Texas A&amp;M University Commerce IPEC Recordings</a>	2023
Texas A&M University Commerce Faculty Ensemble Recording	2023
Fayette County Public Schools Honors Chorus Virtual Ensemble	2021
<i>Christmas Carols Together At Home</i> Virtual Ensemble with A/Tonal Chamber Ensemble	2021
Lafayette High School KMEA Performance Audio & Video Production	2021
Lafayette High School Jazz Band Virtual Project	2021
St. Paul United Methodist Church Virtual Ensembles (11 different projects)	2020
<a href="#">Sleigh Ride! Virtual Band Project</a> by Lafayette High School	2020
<i>Kick</i> – For Percussion Ensemble and Live Kickboxing - Composition and Premiere	2018
Morehead State University Steel Band – Education and Tour Organization	2019

## MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

### Memberships

- Percussive Arts Society
- Texas Music Educators Association
- Kentucky Music Educators Association
- Phi Mu Alpha

### Company Affiliations

- Vic Firth (Sticks and Mallets) / Zildjan (Cymbals)
- PreSonus (Audio Software & Plugins)