

DR. KATIE MERSCH, Soprano

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EDUCATION

University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE
Major: Vocal Performance

Degree: Doctor of Musical Arts – August 2021

University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE
Major: Vocal Performance

Degree: Master of Music – May 2014

St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN
Majors: Vocal Performance and Vocal Church Music

Degree: Bachelor of Music – May 2010

Teachers/Directors/Coaches: Kate Butler, Dr. Jon Gruett, Sean Kelly, Dr. William Shomos, Dr. Sylvia Stoner-Hawkins, Dr. Robert Smith, Karen Wilkerson, Jim McKeel, Janis Hardy

COLLEGIATE TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Instructor at Dallas College (Dallas, TX)

August 2023 – Present

- Teach applied voice lessons
- Teach music appreciation course

Adjunct Professor of Voice at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (Fort Worth, TX)

August 2022 – Present

- Teach applied voice lessons to undergraduate and graduate students
- Teach vocal literature courses
 - Song Literature 1: German and Italian Song
 - Song Literature 2: French, British, and American Song
- Teach diction courses
 - Diction 1: English, Italian and Latin
 - Diction 2: French and German
- Co-teach weekly masterclass

Adjunct Instructor at Southeast Community College (Lincoln, NE)

October 2016 – December 2022

- Taught Music Theory 1 course online (Fall Semesters) and in-person (Spring 2022)
- Taught applied voice lessons (October 2016-May 2022)
- Developed new curriculum for music theory course (Summer 2020)
- Delivered individual instruction in music theory (January 2017-May 2020)

Adjunct Voice Instructor at Iowa Western Community College (Council Bluffs, IA)

August 2017 – May 2022

- Taught applied voice lessons

Adjunct Voice Instructor at Grace University (Omaha, NE)

August 2017 – May 2018

- Taught applied voice lessons to undergraduate students

Graduate Teaching Assistant at University of Nebraska-Lincoln (Lincoln, NE)

August 2014 – May 2017

- Taught applied voice lessons to undergraduate majors and minors
- Taught combined lyric diction and vocal literature courses
 - English and Italian Diction and Literature
 - French Diction and Literature
 - German Diction and Literature

ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Children's Choir Director at Highland Park Presbyterian Church (Dallas, TX)	August 2023 – Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct Carol Choir (Pre-K to kindergarten) preparing children to lead worship and present a musical 	
Voice Teacher at Grand Prairie Fine Arts Academy (Grand Prairie, TX)	August 2022 – Present
Artist Instructor at 402 Arts Collective (Omaha, NE)	January 2018 – August 2022
Voice Faculty at SNJ Studio of Music (Omaha, NE)	January 2018 – August 2022
Worship and Arts Coordinator at Colonial Presbyterian Church (Overland Park, KS)	April 2011 – August 2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Served as Assistant Director for Adult Choir and Children's Choir <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepared Adult Choir to lead worship twice a month Directed first- through fifth-grader choir preparing children to lead worship, present a musical, and sing at nursing homes 	

PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

Recitals/Concerts

Guest Soloist – DMA Voice Recital at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (Fort Worth, TX)	Upcoming Fall 2025
Soloist – Tarik O'Regan's <i>Magnificat</i> at Highland Park Presbyterian Church (Dallas, TX)	Dec. 6, 2024
Featured Soloist – <i>Prelude to Christmas</i> at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (Fort Worth, TX)	Nov. 15-16, 2024
Featured Soloist – <i>Her Story</i> Benefit Concert at New World United Methodist Church (Arlington, TX)	May 4, 2024
Faculty Recital at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (Fort Worth, TX)	Apr. 5, 2024
Featured Soloist – <i>Prelude to Christmas</i> at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (Fort Worth, TX)	Nov. 10-11, 2023
Collaborative Faculty Recital at Iowa Western Community College (Council Bluffs, IA)	Mar. 30, 2022
Featured Soloist – 402 Arts Collective Fundraiser Concert (Omaha, NE)	Dec. 20, 2021
Faculty Recital at Southeast Community College (Lincoln, NE)	Sept. 22, 2019
Guest Recital at Security National Bank (Omaha, NE)	July 12, 2019
Guest Artist – Lecture Recital at Nyack College (Nyack, NY)	Sept. 21, 2017
Guest Artist – Faculty Recital at Grinnell College (Grinnell, IA)	May 7, 2017

Professional Choral Ensembles

Highland Park Chorale	Dr. Greg Hobbs	March 2024 – Present
Kansas City Symphony Chorus	Dr. Charles Bruffy	August 2010 – June 2012
William Baker Festival Summer Singers	Dr. William Baker	June 2010 – August 2010
Video Games Live National Tour	Tommy Tallarico with Minnesota Orchestra	April 2010

Opera Productions

Chorus	<i>Eugene Onegin</i> (Opera Omaha)	April 2022
Chorus	<i>I Capuleti e i Montecchi</i> (Opera Omaha)	October 2021
Chorus	<i>Madama Butterfly</i> (Opera Omaha)	November 2019
Chorus	<i>Faust</i> (Opera Omaha)	April 2019
Chorus	<i>L'elisir d'amore</i> (Opera Omaha)	February 2019
Chorus	<i>Pagliacci</i> (Opera Omaha)	October 2018
Chorus	Opera Outdoors (Opera Omaha)	August 2018
Antonia (understudy)	<i>Les contes d'Hoffmann</i> (UNL)	February 2016
Victoria	<i>A Wedding</i> (including masterclass with William Bolcom) (UNL)	February 2015
Spirit/Chorus	<i>Cendrillon</i> (UNL)	February 2014
Zweiter Knabe	<i>Die Zauberflöte</i> (UNL)	April 2013

Chorus	<i>O Pioneers!</i> (UNL)	November 2012
Barbarina	<i>Le nozze di Figaro</i> (St. Olaf)	October 2009
Chorus	<i>Utopia Limited</i> (St. Olaf)	April 2009
Chorus	<i>Christopher Columbus</i> (St. Olaf)	January 2009
Chorus	<i>L'enfant et les sortilèges</i> (St. Olaf)	January 2008
Chorus	<i>Carmen</i> (St. Olaf)	October 2007

HONORS and AWARDS

West Central Regional NATS Finalist (5 th Place)	October 2014
Nebraska NATS Finalist (3 rd Place)	October 2014
West Central Regional NATS Finalist (4 th Place)	November 2013
Nebraska NATS Finalist (3 rd Place)	October 2013

PERFORMANCE TRAINING

SongFest	May 2020 – June 2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Virtually audited summer program 	
The Wesley Balk Opera/Music Theater Institute	June 2011 – July 2011
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explored integrative approaches to singing-acting Performed scenes and directed individual song project during three-week institute Participated in daily movement classes, small group sessions, and coachings 	

JUDGING

DFW Chapter NATS	March 2025
DFW Chapter NATS	March 2023
Colleyville Heritage High School Solo Festival	February 2023

SERVICE

Citylight Church Omaha	October 2017 – August 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taught weekly voice lessons to Worship Music Resident (September 2020 – May 2022) Coached worship vocalists for special services (October 2020 – August 2022) Sang on worship team (October 2017-August 2022) 	

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

National Association of Teachers of Singing
College Music Society
Pi Kappa Lambda

REFERENCES

Dr. Ben Caston
Professor of Voice – Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
bcaston@swbts.edu

Joel Duarte
High School Director – Grand Prairie Fine Arts Academy
joel.duarte@gpisd.org

Kate Butler
Professor Emeritus of Voice – University of Nebraska-Lincoln
kbutler3@unl.edu