

Kayla Liptak, Percussionist | Performer | Educator | Arranger

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Education

Texas A&M University-Commerce | Master of Music in Performance | August of 2019 – Present (Graduate Assistant)

- 2200 Campbell Street, Commerce, TX 75428
- Primary Teachers: Brian Zator, Sandi Rennick, Kent Hillman, and Cory Doran

University of Alabama | Bachelor of Music in Performance | August of 2014 – May of 2019

- Tuscaloosa, AL 35487
- Primary Teachers: Lauren Teel, Mark Lanter, Tim Feeney, and Neal Flum

Georgia Highlands College | August of 2012 – May of 2014

- 3175 Cedartown Highway, Rome, GA 30161

John McEachern High School | August of 2008 – May of 2012

- 2400 New Macland Road, Powder Springs, GA 30127
- Primary Teachers: Anthony Cananzi and Cecilia Clark

Performance Experience

Texas A&M University-Commerce

- Steel Pan Ensemble | 2020 – Present
- Percussion Ensemble I | 2019 – Present
- Wind Ensemble | 2019 – Present

University of Alabama

- Huxford Symphony Orchestra | 2015 – 2019
 - Principal Percussionist | 2017 – 2019
- Wind Ensemble | 2015 – 2019
- Opera Theatre | 2015, 2018, and 2019
 - **Die Fledermaus** | 2019
 - **West Side Story** | 2018
 - **Street Scene** | 2015
- UA Percussion Ensemble | 2014 – 2019
- Concert Band | 2016 – 2018
- Million Dollar Band | 2016 – 2018
 - Bass Drum | 2016 – 2017

- Front Ensemble | 2017 – 2018
- Symphonic Band | 2014

Miscellaneous

- Virtual Marching Band | 2020
 - Bass Drum 3, World Class
- Virtual Drum & Bugle Corps | 2020
 - Bass Drum 1, World Class
- Starkville Symphony Orchestra | 2017 – 2019
- Tuscaloosa Symphony Orchestra | 2017 – 2019
 - Principal Percussionist for concert in December of 2018
- Theatre Tuscaloosa | 2016 - 2018
 - **Cabaret** | 2018
 - **Once Upon a Mattress** | 2018
 - **Company** | 2017
 - **Ragtime: The Musical** | 2017
 - **The Producers** | 2016
- District XII High School Honor Band | 2008 – 2012
- Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra | 2009 – 2010

Commission Projects

- *Sepia Rainbow, Technicolor World for Solo Vibraphone* by Jared Bradley Tubbs
 - Premiered on April 19, 2019

Teaching Experience

- **Lakeview Centennial High School Percussion Instructor | 2020**
 - Teach fundamental concert percussion techniques through group lessons
 - Prepare students for state-wide and collegiate concert percussion auditions
 - Prepare students for high school marching percussion auditions
 - Teach fundamental marching percussion techniques (battery and front ensemble)
- **Texas A&M University-Commerce Graduate Assistant | 2019 – Present**
 - Teach fundamental marching techniques in group settings (battery and front ensemble)
 - Teach fundamental concert percussion techniques through masterclasses
 - Prepare students for collegiate lessons, following a curriculum
 - Lead percussion ensemble rehearsals
 - Run the sound board for all marching rehearsals and manage all electronic equipment
- **Shadow Drum and Bugle Corps Front Ensemble Coordinator | 2019**
 - Teach fundamental marching percussion techniques (front ensemble)
 - Arrange front ensemble audition/warm-up packet for prospective and current members
 - Provide feedback and instruction to percussion staff members
 - Complete administrative duties

- Review audition tapes
 - Design pre-season and mid-season video assignments
 - Create member contracts
 - Review interest forms and reach out to prospective members
 - Communicate with implement companies for summer tour orders
- **Tuscaloosa County High School Percussion Instructor | 2018 – 2019**
 - Teach fundamental concert percussion techniques through group lessons
 - Lead concert ensemble percussion sectional rehearsals
 - Lead percussion ensemble rehearsals
 - Teach fundamental marching percussion techniques (battery and front ensemble)
- **Hillcrest High School Percussion Instructor | 2018 – 2019**
 - Teach fundamental concert percussion techniques through group lessons
 - Lead concert ensemble percussion sectional rehearsals
 - Lead percussion ensemble rehearsals
- **Brookwood High School Percussion Instructor | 2017 – 2019**
 - Prepare students for high school marching percussion auditions
 - Teach fundamental marching percussion techniques (battery and front ensemble)
- **Sipsey Valley High School Percussion Instructor | 2017 – 2019**
 - Prepare students for state-wide and collegiate concert percussion auditions
 - Prepare students for high school marching percussion auditions
 - Teach fundamental marching percussion techniques (battery and front ensemble)
- **University of Alabama Community Music School Percussion Instructor | 2017 – 2018**
 - Instructor of beginner, intermediate, and advanced percussion (concert, drum set, and marching) techniques
 - Prepare students for state-wide and collegiate concert percussion auditions
 - Prepare students for high school marching percussion auditions
- **Private Percussion Instructor | 2015 – Present**
 - Instructor of beginner, intermediate, and advanced percussion (concert, drum set, and marching) techniques
 - Prepare students for state-wide and collegiate concert percussion auditions
 - Prepare students for high school marching percussion auditions and drum corps auditions

Arranging Experience

- Union County High School (Tennessee) Marching Percussion Arranger | 2020

Additional Experience

- Interlochen Center for the Arts Summer Arts Camp Percussion Coordinator | 2020, 2021
 - *Furloughed due to COVID-19 with contract being honored in 2021*
- Percussive Arts Society University Students Committee | 2020
- Huxford Symphony Orchestra Librarian and Social Media Expert | 2018 – 2019

Honors and Awards

- Texas A&M University-Commerce Percussion Studio Outstanding Percussionist Award | 2020
- University of Alabama School of Music Outstanding Senior Award | 2019
- Undergraduate Scholar Award | The Presser Foundation | 2018
- University of Alabama Alumni Association Scholarship | 2018
- Robert Riley McAlpine Smith Memorial Scholarship | 2017

Additional Information

- Salyers Percussion Education Team | 2018 – Present
- Sigma Alpha Iota Member | Initiated in 2018
- Kappa Kappa Psi Member | Initiated in 2015

References

- Brian Zator | Music Department Head | brian.zator@tamuc.edu
- Sandi Rennick | Adjunct Professor of Percussion | sandra_c@me.com
- Cory Doran | Interim Professor of Percussion | cory.doran@tamuc.edu
- Kent Hillman | Adjunct Drum Set Instructor | kent.hillman@tamuc.edu
- David Scott | Associate Dean and Professor of Music | david.scott@tamuc.edu
- Lauren Teel | Percussion Caption Head | laurenteel@verizon.net
- Tim Feeney | Faculty, Instrumental Arts | tfeeney@calarts.edu
- Kenneth Ozzello | Director of Bands | kozzello@ua.edu