

LAURA M. JOHNSON

EDUCATION

OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY – Norfolk, Virginia

May 2020

Master of Music Education

Thesis: “Gender-Specific Mentorship for Collegiate Female Band Directors”

Advisor: Dr. Douglas Owens

GPA: 4.0

GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS COLLEGE – Saint Peter, Minnesota

December 2016

Bachelor of Arts in Instrumental Music Education

GPA: 3.94, *Summa cum laude*

Conducting Teachers:

Dr. Brian Diller, 2018 – 2020

Dr. Robert Taylor, summer symposium (2019)

Dr. Timothy Robblee, summer symposium (2019)

Dr. Cody Birdwell, summer symposium (2019)

Professor Craig Kirchhoff, summer symposium (2019)

Dr. Travis Cross, summer symposium (2017)

Professor Jerry Junkin, summer symposium (2017)

Dr. James Patrick Miller, 2014 – 2016

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Bay Youth Wind Symphony – Chesapeake, Virginia

November 2019 – Present

Assistant Conductor

- Assists Bay Youth Wind Symphony (BYWS) conductor with administrative tasks such as librarian duties, attendance, instructional assistance, and seating auditions.
- Conducts the ensemble for rehearsals and concerts as assigned.

Old Dominion University – Norfolk, Virginia

August 2018 – May 2020

Graduate Assistant, F. Ludwig Diehn School of Music

- Assistant conductor for the Monarch Marching Band and Monarch Basketball Pep Band that performed for Division 1 games. Led sectionals and full ensemble rehearsals for both bands. Traveled with bands for away games and tournaments.
- Assisted with the Old Dominion University Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, and Clarinet Choir by both conducting and performing alongside undergraduate students.
- Assisted with logistical tasks for the School of Music, such as distributing and organizing music, planning for tours, and coordinating School of Music events.

Hickory High School – Chesapeake, Virginia
Woodwind Instructor/Tech

August 2019 – October 2019

- Served on staff with the Marching Hawks. Responsibilities included assisting in setting and cleaning drill, assisting in ensemble rehearsals, leading sectionals, providing field comments, and assisting in teaching choreography.

Sartell Middle School – Sartell, Minnesota
Band Director

June 2017 – July 2018

- Taught 6th – 8th grade advisory course, 7th grade concert band, 6th grade general music, 7th grade general music, and 6th – 8th grade jazz band.
- Instructed both middle school and high school marching band programs.
- Responsible for Sartell Middle School's inclusion in young band literature consortium in collaboration with the Minnesota Band Directors Association in 2018.
- Served on a standards-based grading committee and a programming subcommittee responsible for renovations to the middle school building.

Dakota Hills Middle School – Eagan, Minnesota
Assistant Band Director, Summer Band Program

June 2017 – August 2017

- Directed numerous concert bands from grades 6 – 8 for the summer band program.
- Taught individual and small group lessons for woodwinds, brass, and percussion.

Independent School Districts 196 & 623 – Minnesota
Music Substitute Teacher

February 2017 – June 2017

- K – 12 short call music substitute in the Roseville (ISD 623) and Rosemount-Eagan-Apple Valley (ISD 196) school districts. Taught general music, band, and orchestra.

Roseville Area Schools – Roseville, Minnesota
Assistant Band Director, Summer Band Program

Summers 2014 – 2016

- Taught 5th – 9th grade students on woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments in both individual and small group lessons.
- Conducted the 5th grade and 6th grade bands in rehearsals and the final concert.
- Additional responsibilities included assessing student performance and improvement, copying and organizing music, setting up and striking the rehearsal and lesson spaces, supervising recreation activities, and transporting equipment.

New Prague Middle School – New Prague, Minnesota
Band Teacher Assistant

September 2014 – May 2015

- Taught lessons to 6th – 8th grade students on woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments in both individual and small group lessons.
- Assisted with rehearsal management and conducting of 6th – 8th grade bands, copying music, assessing SmartMusic entries, setting up for rehearsals, and grading papers.
- Taught clarinet masterclass for elementary students in the district and assisted with instrument testing and placement at three district elementary schools.

Project GEM – Mankato, Minnesota
Music Team Leader

September 2013 – December 2013

- Served as a teacher for Project GEM (Growth, Experience, and Motivation), a non-profit arts education organization that provides services for special needs youth.
- Taught a general music course to two classrooms of 5th – 9th grade students with a variety of special needs. Course topics included instrument families, music history, styles of music, note names, reading music, and analyzing music.

STUDENT TEACHING

Eagan High School/Dakota Hills Middle School – Eagan, Minnesota
October 2016 – December 2016

- Conducted four bands from grades 9 – 12 in rehearsals throughout 7 weeks. Led three ensembles on their POPS Concert in November 2016.
- Taught weekly individual and small-group brass, woodwind, and percussion lessons.
- Assisted directors with Jazz I, Jazz II, and Jazz III ensembles.
- Attended extracurricular as well as before and after school events including section final and state championship pep bands, drumline rehearsals, booster club meetings, professional development/workshop days, and departmental meetings.
- Assisted with logistical tasks such as the organization and cataloguing of the concert band music library, copying and sorting music, setting rooms for rehearsals, moving equipment, creating programs/posters, and repairing instruments.

Rosemount High School – Rosemount, Minnesota
July 2016 – October 2016

- Served on staff with the Rosemount Marching Band. Responsibilities included assisting in cleaning drill, assisting in ensemble rehearsals, leading sectionals, providing field comments, assisting in teaching choreography, and repairing instruments. Attended all competitions throughout the season, which included the Golden Regiment Invitational in Blue Springs, MO, Youth in Music Band Championships at US Bank in Minneapolis, MN, and the Bands of America Super Regional Competition in St. Louis, MO.
- Conducted pieces with one of the 9th grade concert bands and one of the 10th – 11th grade concert bands in rehearsals and on their fall concert. Led woodwind and brass sectionals with all four concert bands on all concert repertoire.
- Led the instruction of a clarinet studio, providing all clarinetists in grades 9 – 12 with weekly lessons. Created a clarinet handbook of exercises, etudes, solos, and duets for future instructors to use while in this role.

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Gustavus Adolphus College – Saint Peter, Minnesota
Instrumental Music Assistant, Department of Music

January 2013 – May 2016

- Organized the annual Gustavus Honor Band, assisted in planning ensemble tours, organized fall auditions, set up rehearsal rooms and concert spaces, and rented instruments and lockers to students.

Lutheran Music Program – Minneapolis, Minnesota
Dean of Students, Lutheran Summer Music

Summer 2016

- Coordinated and supervised student experiences over month long residential music program. Provided support and guidance for program counselors and students.
- Participated in program's ensembles alongside students and counselors.
- Additional duties included creating dorm assignments, planning recreational activities, and assisting in rehearsal schedules for students.

CONDUCTING APPEARANCES

Conductor – Bay Youth Wind Symphony

February 2020

Graduate Conductor – Old Dominion University Wind Ensemble

2018 – 2019

Guest Conductor – Windiana Concert Band

December 2018

Conducted the ensemble as a part of Windiana's 2018 Italy Tour.

Student Conductor – Gustavus Wind Orchestra

Spring 2016

HONORS AND AWARDS

Graduate Music Education Award for Outstanding Researcher

April 2020

- Awarded by the Old Dominion University F. Ludwig Diehn School of Music

Participant in Graduate Research Achievement Day

April 2020

- Poster competition celebrating graduate student research at Old Dominion University.

Charlotte Plummer Owen Memorial Scholarship

January 2020

- Awarded by Women Band Directors International. One of five female music education students selected from a pool of 100 applicants.

Alumni Association's Outstanding Scholar Fellowship

June 2019

- Annual award presented to only two individuals, an alumnus and a non-alumnus of Old Dominion University.

Mike Moss Conducting Study Grant

April 2019

- Sponsored by the College Band Director National Association, the Mike Moss Conducting Study Grant is directed to women and people of diverse ethnicity to provide an opportunity for professional development and study at leading conducting symposiums across the country.
- Selected for a grant to study at Shenandoah University in June 2019.

Pi Kappa Lambda – Gustavus Adolphus College

May 2016

- Elected into *Pi Kappa Lambda* National Honors Society for Music, into the Zeta Chi Chapter at Gustavus Adolphus College.
- Honorary nomination at Old Dominion University in 2020.

CONDUCTING SYMPOSIA

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| Northwestern University – Evanston, Illinois
Clinicians: Dr. Mallory Thompson and Dr. Damon Talley | July 2020 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cancelled due to COVID-19. Planning for attendance at 2021 session. | |
| Shenandoah Conservatory – Winchester, Virginia
Clinicians: Dr. Timothy Robblee and Dr. Emily Threinen | June 2020 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cancelled due to COVID-19. Planning for attendance at 2021 session. | |
| University of Kentucky – Lexington, Kentucky
Clinicians: Dr. Cody Birdwell and Craig Kirchhoff | June 2019 |
| Shenandoah Conservatory – Winchester, Virginia
Clinicians: Dr. Timothy Robblee and Dr. Robert Taylor | June 2019 |
| University of California – Los Angeles – Los Angeles, California
Clinicians: Dr. Travis Cross and Jerry Junkin | June 2017 |

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Research Presentation**, “The Inclusion of Student Selected Repertoire in Secondary Instrumental Programs,” New York State Band Directors Association Virtual Summer Conference, August 2020.
- Research Presentation**, “The Inclusion of Student Selected Repertoire in Secondary Instrumental Programs,” Women Band Directors International Summer Conference, June 2020.
- Virtual presentation due to COVID-19.
- Project Presentation**, “Developing ePortfolios of Student Work,” Minnesota Music Educators Association Midwinter Clinic, February 23, 2018.
- Instructional presentation on the use of Google Drive to create electronic portfolios of student work of band students from grades 5-12.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| Women Banding Together
Co-Founder | May 2020 - Present |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Women Banding Together (WBT) cultivates mentoring relationships among current, future, and retired women band directors at all levels, including band directors who identify as female or non-binary. WBT provides a platform to explore unique issues for women band directors, to connect women band directors who seek support in the growth and development of their careers, and to assist anyone of any gender in the mentorship of current and aspiring women band directors. | |

Women Band Directors International	November 2019 – Present
College Band Directors National Association	November 2019 – Present
Kappa Kappa Psi	2018 – Present
Mental Health Chair of Nu Rho Chapter (2018 – 2020)	
National Association for Music Education (NAfME)	2014 – Present

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic	2015 – 2019
McCormick Place, Chicago, Illinois	
Virginia Music Educators Association Professional Development Conference	2019
Omni Homestead Resort, Hot Springs, Virginia	
Minnesota Music Educators Association Midwinter Clinic	2014 – 2018
Minneapolis Convention Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota	

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Co-President of Kappa Delta Pi	March 2014 – May 2016
Gustavus Adolphus College Chapter	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Led bi-weekly meetings, communicated with the Regional Chapter Coordinator, and attended leadership trainings. Coordinated service projects including a book drive for the St. Peter school district, volunteering at school dances, babysitting for the St. Peter PTA, a holiday donation giving tree for Minnesota Valley School, and campaigning for the construction of a new building for St. Peter High School. 	

PRIVATE INSTRUMENTAL STUDY

Clarinet	
Dr. Karrin Meffert-Nelson, Assistant Professor in Music at Gustavus Adolphus College	
2012 – 2016	
Burt Hara, Principal Clarinetist of the Los Angeles Philharmonic	
Masterclass at MacPhail Center for Music, Minneapolis, Minnesota	
September 2014	
Katrina Mundinger, private instructor in Minneapolis, Minnesota	
2011 – 2012	

Euphonium

Trygve Skaar, Adjunct Professor of Tuba and Euphonium at Gustavus Adolphus College
2014 – 2016

Dr. Paul Budde, Assistant Professor of Music at University of Wisconsin – River Falls
2013 – 2014

PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

Virginia Wind Symphony January 2019 – Present

Old Dominion University Symphony Orchestra Spring 2020

Old Dominion University Clarinet Choir January 2019 – May 2020

Old Dominion University Wind Ensemble August 2019 – May 2020

- Principal Clarinetist

Windiana Concert Band New Year's Tours: 2014, 2016, 2018

Minnesota Orchestra Fantasy Camp July 2017

- Week-long intensive experience of rehearsals and a side-by-side performance with the musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra.

Gustavus Wind Orchestra 2012 – 2016

- Principal Clarinetist (2015 – 2016)

Gustavus Chamber Winds 2014 – 2016

- Select ensemble of top Gustavus Wind Orchestra musicians, focusing exclusively on repertoire from the Harmoniemusik tradition.

Gustavus Symphony Orchestra 2013 – 2016