Matthew R. Hill

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**Career Summary**

Dynamic and energetic music educator with over twenty years’ experience in choral, music theory and general music classrooms. Driven self-motivator with a passion for helping students grow as musicians and as people. Works well with colleagues, families and administrators.

**Education**

**West Chester University, West Chester, PA Master’s of Music, 2012**

*Major:* Music Education, Choral Conducting *Final GPA: 3.95*

Ithaca College, Ithaca NY Bachelor’s of Music, 2003

*Major:* Music Education, Voice *Final GPA:* 3.59

# Professional Experience

**Fugett Middle School, West Chester Area SD (2010-present)**

**Music Supervisor (retired):** Judy Voois (610) 547-0181 (c); e-mail: [*judy.voois@verizon.net*](mailto:judy.voois@verizon.net)

* + - Music Department Chair (2021-present): Teacher leader for music department—led colleagues through the ever-changing pandemic landscape and three different school administrations, organized annual Music in the Parks trip, served as liaison between building administration and three full-time colleagues, organized fundraisers to supplement district funds
    - Drama Club Director (2012-present): Direct the spring musical, which has grown from 90 to over 160 students in grades 6-8. Expanded performance opportunities and saw exponential growth in crowd size, oversaw account of $30k, and host annual Community Show performance for local preK families, retirees, and school-aged children
    - Choral Music Teacher (2012-present): Teach all Fugett Choruses (grades 6-8) and Fugett Chorale (auditioned ensemble), choosing appropriate literature for age and experience level of students. Organize performances in and out of school, including an annual elementary school tour and competition trip for the Chorale. Instituted service project to have students record performances for area nursing homes, and used grant opportunities to enhance program for students. Ensembles routinely earn high marks at annual competitions
    - General Music Teacher, grades 6-8 (2010-12): Taught grade-level classes as well as an elective course in Popular Music; Started a Men’s Choir as an extra-curricular ensemble to encourage young men to continue singing through their voice change

St. Peter’s Pikeland United Church of Christ, Chester Springs, PA (2007-2013)

* + - *Choir Director:* Conducted rehearsals of the 25-member Senior Choir (adults) and 15-member Junior Choir (children), choosing appropriate music in a variety of genres and difficulty levels for weekly worship services. Organized a concert of choral favorites as a fundraiser in Fall 2012. Conducted Vivaldi’s *Gloria* with the Senior Choir and guest soloists, expanded the music program to include a choir for kids aged 9-16, and introduced the “Choir Sunday” program for performance of other large works, which debuted in Spring 2008.
    - *Music Director:* Responsible for the planning and coordination of special music worship events, the care of all instruments and music library, and the management of a $2000 yearly operating budget.

**James Alcorn Elementary School, School District of Philadelphia (2009-2010)**

* General Music Teacher (K-8)

**Welsh Valley Middle School, Lower Merion School District, Narberth, PA (2008-2009 school year)**

Music Supervisor: Jason Bizich; e-mail: *bizichj@lmsd.org*

* + - Directed five different choral ensembles in grades six through eight, including two auditioned choirs in grades seven and eight. Organized successful Winter and Spring Concerts, as well as a competition trip to *Music in the Parks*, where both select ensembles were awarded First Place trophies and “Excellent” ratings.
    - Taught 18 different sections of choral rehearsals, instructing students in the fundamentals of singing, ear-training and music literacy. Delivered content-rich lessons infused with technology and the principles of Gordon and Kodaly pedagogies.

**Kensington Creative and Performing Arts High School, School District of Philadelphia (2005-2008)**

* + - *Computer-Assisted Vocal Music Teacher:* Taught Choir, Music Theory, & *Introduction to the Arts*. The overarching goal of the vocal music program was to provide students with a contemporary music education in which they were actively engaged in music making through performing, composing, arranging, and improvising.
    - *Arts Department Teacher Leader:* Responsible for overseeing all planning for the arts department at a   
      brand-new creative and performing arts school. Led staff in the design and implementation of the *Introduction to the Arts* curriculum, a 9-week rotation course with weekly seminars.

**Professional Activities**

* Composer, “A Symphony Divine,” premiered at the 2023 West Chester ASD Choral Festival by its combined Finale chorus
* Published article “Middle School Choral Music Review” in the PA Music Educators’ quarterly magazine *PMEA News* (2022)
* Grant Recipient, ‘Voice Lessons for Emerging Singers” from the West Chester Area Education Foundation (2021)
* Presenter, University of the Arts Secondary Choral Methods classes (2019-present)
* Member of the Schoology Champions Circle for power users of the platform who are able to lead their colleagues in its use (2019-present)
* Presenter, various topics—PMEA District 12 conferences (2015-2018)
* Cooperating Teacher, Methods classes and one-on-one, West Chester University, University of Delaware, and University of the Arts, 2012-present
* Teaching Assistant, Villanova University, 2009: “Basic Skills in Music Technology”
* Presenter, Pennsylvania Music Educators’ Association (PMEA) Statewide In-Service Conference, 2009

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# Certification

* *Instructional II Certificate,* Pennsylvania Department of Education, K-12 Music (December 2010)
* *Certificate of Completion,* University of Puerto Rico, Instituto Interdisciplinario y Multicultural (INIM) (June 2006)
* *Provisional Certificate,* New York State Department of Education, pre-K-12 Music (September 2003)

# Special Skills

* Ability to accompany ensembles on piano, as well as teach all standard instruments (including guitar and ukelele)
* Accomplished arranger and composer, including several pieces premiered by area ensembles
* Particular interest in and knowledge of vocal jazz education.
* Highly competent in use and troubleshooting with MacOS, iOS, Windows, MS *Office*, Google apps, and Schoology.
* Power user of various pieces of music software, especially the notational software *Finale* and *Sibelius*, *GarageBand*, *Audacity, Photoscore Ultimate*

**Professional Memberships**

* National Association for Music Education (NAfME)
* American Choral Directors Association (ACDA)
* Pennsylvania Music Educators’ Association (PMEA)

# Professional Instruction

**Voice:**

Dr. Randie Blooding, Ithaca College

Debra Field, Lehigh University

**Pedagogy:**

Dr. Kristen Albert, West Chester University

Dr. Susan Avery, Ithaca College

Dr. Verna Brummett, Ithaca College

**Technology**

Dr. Thomas Rudolph, University of the Arts

Ken Peters, University of the Arts

Dr. Timothy Nord, Ithaca College

**Conducting:**

Dr. David DeVenney, West Chester University

Dr. Janet Galvan, Ithaca College

Lawrence Doebler, Ithaca College

**Composing and Arranging:**

Dr. Van Stiefel, West Chester University

Dr. Gregory Woodward, Ithaca College

Lauri Robinson-Keegan, Ithaca College

###### Letters of Recommendation Available upon Request