

# CHRISTOPHER BRANDT



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## EDUCATION

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS  
Wind Band Conducting  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
May 3, 2019

MASTER OF ARTS  
Wind Band Conducting  
Sam Houston State University  
Aug 8, 2015

BACHELOR OF ARTS  
*Magna Cum Laude*  
Music Education, Music  
Performance (saxophone),  
Leadership (minor)  
University of Jamestown  
Dec 16, 2010

## PRIMARY INSTRUCTORS

CONDUCTING  
Dr. Carolyn Barber, Dr. Peter  
Eklund, Dr. Benjamin Schneider,  
Dr. Aaron McDerimid,  
Dr. Tyler White

SAXOPHONE  
Dr. Benjamin Schneider,  
Dr. Bruce Ammann

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN

#### *Graduate Teaching Assistant* (2016-2019)

- Wind Area Ensembles - Assistant Conductor  
Assist principle conductor of the Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band in administration of students and rehearsals
- Campus Band - Associate Director  
Conduct, rehearse, and develop curriculum for two university-wide concert bands including over 110 students
- Cornhusker Marching Band - Assistant  
Assist with music and visual rehearsals, supervise and administrate group travel throughout the United States
- Big Red Express - Associate Director  
Act as primary conductor at rehearsals, basketball, volleyball and other sporting events. Lead and supervise students on travel events to various venues across the United States including NCAA Basketball and Volleyball
- Beginning/Advanced Conducting - Instructor, Assistant  
Assist in the administration, teaching, and development of undergraduate music education majors in their two semesters of Instrumental Conducting  
Teach students basic conducting techniques, transposition fundamentals, score study techniques, and rehearsal techniques.

### PERSHING WINDS

#### *Founder and Music Director* (2017-Present)

The Pershing Winds is a semi-professional wind ensemble comprised of students from all facets of the Glenn Korff School of Music that aspires to create expressive and meaningful performances of quality literature written for the wind band.

### LINCOLN LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

#### *Adjunct Faculty* (2016-2018)

Assist director Michael Werner by leadings sectionals, private lessons, and other rehearsals throughout the band program.

### WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

#### *Assistant Director of Bands* (2015-2016)

Instruct, rehearse, and lead Symphonic band, Concert band, and two Freshman bands in class and in performance. Conduct and rehearse competitive Marching band and pep band.

### SIoux FALLS PARKS AND RECREATION SUMMER YOUTH BAND

#### *Assistant Director* (2006, 2007, 2008, 2016)

Assist director, Mr. Robert Carlson, in the preparation of music and equipment, warm-up and rehearsal and performance of students as well as covering parts in performance as needed.

### BRAINERD HIGH SCHOOL

#### *Associate Director of Bands* (2013-2015)

Instruct, rehearse, and lead Symphonic band, Concert band, and two Freshman bands in class and in performance. Conduct and rehearse fall marching band and pep band.

#### CROOKSTON HIGH SCHOOL

*Director of Bands* (2011-2013)

Instruct, rehearse, and administer a band program of 350 students. Lead the band students in class and in performance. Director of the High School Band (including Marching and Pep Bands), Jr. High Band, 6th Grade Band, and 5th Grade Band.

#### CARMEL HIGH SCHOOL

*Student Teaching* (Fall 2010)

Under the supervision of Mr. Richard Saucedo, Director of Bands.

#### ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL

*Saxophone, Marching, and Visual Assistant* (Summer 2006, 2007, 2009)

#### LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL

*Practicum* (Fall 2008)

Under the supervision of Mr. Robert Carlson, Director of Bands.

#### JAMESTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

*Assistant to the Director of Bands* (Fall 2007-2008)

Assist director, Mr. Brady Olson, in individual, small group, and full ensemble rehearsals.

#### TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Substitute Choral Director* (2007-2009)

Prepare and rehearse the choir in the absence of their regular director, Dr. Aaron McDermid.

### AWARDS, HONORS, AND PUBLICATIONS

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#### COMPOSITION PREMIER SELECTED AS NATIONAL FINALIST FOR THE AMERICAN PRIZE

*An Immigrants Story* Marat Sanatulloev (March 2018).

A collaborative project between composer and conductor, the premier recording of the work has led to the work to be selected as a National Finalist in the Concert Band Division for the American Prize.

#### MUSIC CONTEST REFORM: RESTORING THE EDUCATIONAL VALUE OF MUSIC CONTEST

*The Instrumentalist* Vol, 73, No. 4 (November 2018): p. 10-14, 38.

The benefits of music contests have been largely minimized as a result of inconsistent standards across the U.S. and abroad, damaging emphasis placed on the final results rather than a process driven endeavor with judge comments providing guidance along the way, and poor judge training.

#### CONTRADICTIONS - THE MUSIC OF DANIEL BALDWIN - *Conductor*

(Summer 2017)

An album featuring the wind music of composer Daniel Baldwin. Recordings completed summer 2017. Release upcoming.

#### NATIONAL BAND ASSOCIATION YOUNG CONDUCTOR - *Semi-Finalist*

(Summer 2017)

A national selection process that pairs young conductors with veteran conductor mentors in an intensive collaboration culminating in the premiere of new works from young composers.



## ESSENTIAL TRANSCRIPTIONS

*The Instrumentalist* Vol. 71, No. 9 (April 2017): p. 18-24.

"Over the past century an increasing emphasis has been placed on the performance of original works for band, resulting in fewer transcriptions being performed each year. This article seeks to identify the origin of this trend, assert the value of transcriptions in the band repertoire, and propose significant transcriptions worthy of performance."

## HIXSON-LIED STUDY GRANT RECIPIENT

*Glenn Korff School of Music, University of Nebraska-Lincoln* (Nov. 15, 2016)

Student study grant of \$1,000 to support participation in the Northwestern University Conducting Symposium in Evanston, IL. Grant augmented by Glenn Korff School of Music award of \$500.

## ARMY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

*United States Army* (May 1, 2010, Oct. 9, 2010)

Awarded for exemplary behavior, efficiency, and fidelity while serving as a member of the United States Army.

## DEAN'S LIST OF OUTSTANDING SCHOLARS

*University of Jamestown* (2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010)

## COLLEGE FELLOW - Department of Music

*University of Jamestown* (May 1, 2010, Oct. 9, 2010)

A limited number of outstanding junior and senior students are selected each year by the faculty for the distinction of College Fellow. Recipients are to be of exemplary character and must possess an overall cumulative grade point average of 3.3 or better as well as a grade point average of 3.50 or better in their majors. Fellows may tutor or teach under the direction of their department chair(s) and hold rank just below that of a college instructor.

## ARMY RESERVE COMPONENT ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

*United States Army* (Mar. 9, 2011)

Awarded for exemplary behavior, efficiency, and fidelity while serving as a member of the United States Army Reserve.

## NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

*United States Army* (Aug. 8, 2008)

## VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

*Sioux Empire Red Cross* (2006)

## GUEST CONDUCTING

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### UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA SYMPHONIC BAND

*Lincoln, NE* (December 6, 2018)

Giroux: *Shine*

### DONALD A. LENTZ CONCERT BAND

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln* (April 26, 2018)

Spittal: *Celestial Song*, Buckley: *Doctor Who: Through Time and Space*, Prescott: *Time Circles*

### LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL WIND ENSEMBLE

*Lincoln, NE* (Mar. 19-24, 2018)



Bernstein/Beeler: *Overture to Candide*, Mackey: *Sheltering Sky*, Sheldon: *Danzas Cubanas*, Filmore: *Klaxon March*, Hazo: *Sólas Ané*, Balmages: *Midnight on Main Street*

#### UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN WIND ENSEMBLE

*Lincoln, NE* (March 7, 2018)

Salfelder: *Cathedrals*, Daugherty: *Bells for Stokowski*, Sanatullo: *Through my eyes: one immigrant's story*

#### JACK R. SNIDER CONCERT BAND

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln* (April 27, 2017)

Mahr: *Daydream*, Mackey: *Foundry*, Bryant: *Machine Awakes*

#### NEW MUSIC RECITAL

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln* (March 31, 2017)

Derek Molacek: *The War Never Ends*

#### UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN WIND ENSEMBLE

*Lincoln, NE* (March 8, 2017)

Barnes: *Incantation and Dance*

#### SAXOPHONE CHOIR

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln* (2016-2017)

#### WINTER WINDS HONOR BAND

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln* (January 14, 2017, January 21, 2018)

Rehearsal Conductor Gould: *Ballad for Band*, Schmitt: *Selamlık*

#### WEST FARGO HIGH SCHOOL

*West Fargo, ND* (January 2-5, 2017)

#### GRANVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

*Granville, ND* (March 4-8, 2015)

### ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

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#### CREATIVE ACTIVITIES & RESEARCH EXPERIENCES EVALUATOR

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln* (2016-2019)

#### ASSOCIATE CONDUCTOR

*451st Army Band, Ft. Snelling, MN* (2008-2014)

#### ASSOCIATE CONDUCTOR

*University of Jamestown Pep Band, Jamestown, ND* (Fall 2006-2010)

Lead the Jamestown College Pep Band in performance for football and basketball games.

#### ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR

*University of Jamestown, Jamestown, ND* (Fall 2006-2008)

Assist musical director, Dr. Richard Valentine, in all aspects of preparing the University of Jamestown orchestra and theatre members for numerous performances. These aspects include: rehearsing small and large ensembles independently, keeping notes on the progress of the ensemble(s), preparing part books, and assisting in the printing of the program.



ACCREDITATION ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE  
*University of Jamestown, Jamestown, ND (Fall 2008-2010)*

DRUM MAJOR  
*451st Army Band, Ft. Snelling, MN (2008-2014)*

ASSISTANT TEAM LEADER  
*451st Army Band, Ft. Snelling, MN (2008-2014)*

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

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451ST ARMY BAND  
*Ft. Snelling, MN (2008-2014)*  
Associate Conductor, Assistant Team Leader, Senior Instrumentalist

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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### AUTHENTIC PERFORMANCE OF WIND BAND TRANSCRIPTIONS

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln dissertation (In Progress)*

An examination of five representative wind band transcriptions (*Danzon No. 2* by Arturo Marquez transcribed by Oliver Nickel, Finale from *Symphony No. 9* by Antonín Dvorák transcribed by Mark Hindsley, *Elsa's Procession to the Cathedral* by Richard Wagner transcribed by Lucien Cailliet, *Serenity* by Ola Gjeilo transcribed by Eric Wilson, and Johannes Brahms *Blessed Are They* transcribed by Barbara Buehlman), how they relate to their original form, and how a performance of the transcription may be influenced by an increased understanding of its original form.

### WIND BAND TRANSCRIPTIONS: A VITAL COMPONENT OF THE WIND BAND REPERTOIRE

*The Instrumentalist Vol. 71, No. 9 (April 2017): 18-24.*

Wind band transcriptions represent a rich and vast selection of the repertoire, and create a window into the past for the students in our ensembles.

### MUSIC CONTEST REFORM: RESTORING THE EDUCATIONAL VALUE OF MUSIC CONTEST

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### VIBRATO USE IN THE WIND BAND

*A search for broad criterion for the use of vibrato in the wind band (On Going)*

With its vastly different timbre's, some instruments generally expected to use vibrato and others not, how does one approach the creation of a unified sound within the wind band. How are these principles affected by the era of a composition, the relative range of the instrument, the composer, and the orchestration? The answer will include input from conductors (wind, choral, and orchestral), applied instructors, and composers.

### EFFECTIVE REHEARSAL STRATEGIES

*Seeking potent rehearsal techniques that encourage ensemblehip, and individual musicianship (On Going)*

Gone are the days (thankfully) of hierarchal, oneway music making from the podium to the student musicians. Students and musicians today warrant significant opportunities for input into the creative process, furthermore this is the best way to create life-long enthusiasts of music. Additionally, the scope



of the public school ensemble director must extend beyond the preparation of excellent performances. The educator has the responsibility to convey the building blocks of music, relevant historical and biographical information, and to instill a passion for music that extends well beyond the concert stage.

#### COMPREHENSIVE BAND METRIC

A quantitative study of public school band programs in the United States with the intent on creating a comprehensive metric to predict the quality of a given band program. Using objective data points such as: band population (compared to school population); solo & ensemble participation and ratings; large group ratings; and more; to identify predictors of program quality and develop a model to track the year-to-year trajectory of a given program.

#### THE EFFECTS OF WIND INSTRUMENT PERFORMANCE ON CARDIOVASCULAR HEALTH

*Identifying the effects of prolonged wind instrument performance on cardiovascular health.* (Future Study)

Controlled breathing exercises have been shown to lower heart rates and have other cardiovascular health benefits. Do the exercises and demands on the lungs necessary to perform on a wind instrument produce the same benefits?

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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#### CONDUCTING SUMMIT

*University of Wisconsin* (2017)  
With Donald Hunsberger

#### THE MIDWEST CLINIC

*Chicago, IL*  
(2008, 2009, 2014, 2016, 2017, 2018)

#### KIETH LOCKHART

*University of Nebraska* (2017)  
Conducting Masterclass Iowa Western  
Conductor's clinic  
With Col. Bruce Pulver (2017)

#### MINNESOTA MUSIC EDUCATORS CONFERENCE

*Minneapolis, MN*  
(2013, 2014, 2015)

#### CONDUCTING SYMPOSIUM

*University of Minnesota* (2009)  
With Craig Kirchhoff

#### NEBRASKA MUSIC EDUCATORS CONFERENCE

*Lincoln, NE* (2016, 2017, 2018)

#### WIND BAND INSTITUTE

*Concordia University* (2009, 2010)  
With Dr. Scott Jones, and  
Richard Saucedo

#### COLORADO CONDUCTING SYMPOSIUM

*University of Colorado - Boulder* (2018)  
With Allen McMurray, Donald J. McKinney,  
Matthew Roeder, and Matthew Dockendorff

### MEMBERSHIPS

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College Band Directors National Association (2016-Present)

National Band Association (2007-Present)

National Association for Music Education (2007-Present)

Minnesota Band Directors Association (2011-2015)

Minnesota Music Educators Association (2011-2015)

North Dakota Music Educators Association (2007-2011)

