#### MATTHEW SHEPPARD

#### **Curriculum Vitae**

# **Professional Experience**

#### Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra

2023

#### **Guest Artist**

- Serve as guest conductor for Link Up! The Orchestra Rocks program
- Work with education, operations, and personnel team to conduct program for Milwaukee area school children

#### **Elgin Symphony Orchestra**

2020-present

#### **Education Conductor**

- Lead the Ainsworth Concerts for Youth (ACY), the ESO's annual school-day concerts that reach thousands of local students and educators
- Design a compelling program aimed at inspiring musical engagement for students
- Create a Teacher's Guide to enhance student engagement and understanding of the concert-day performances
- Conduct the ESO in all rehearsals and performances of the ACY series

#### **Guest Conductor**

- Design programs for multiple concert cycles throughout the season
- Lead rehearsals and performances

#### **Northwestern University**

2022-2023

Guest Resident Conductor (2022-23), Northwestern University Symphony Orchestra

- Lead rehearsals for the flagship orchestra of Northwestern University's Bienen School of Music
- Serve as Northwestern faculty member
- Coordinate with guest music director and guest artists
- Assist in working with graduate student conductors

#### Lecturer

- Teach Fundamentals of Conducting (Cond. 326)
- Develop and teach course to upperclassmen performance and education majors

## **Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra**

2016-present

Artistic Director (2019-present), Associate Conductor (2016-2019)

- Provide artistic leadership for sixteen-person staff in implementing an engaging and comprehensive curriculum to 300 EYSO students across nine ensembles
- Create and implement long-term strategic plans and objectives to better serve our students and community, including partnerships and programs with community leaders such as Starter Strings at Oakhill Elementary School
- Conduct the top-level Youth Symphony in exploring professional-level repertoire for four performances each year; engage guest artists for performances, masterclasses, and further opportunities to serve our students
- Coordinate with Elgin Community College (ECC) in offering graded, for-credit classes for ECC and EYSO students as an In-Residence-Ensemble at ECC
- Awarded the 2021 Youth Orchestra of the Year by the Illinois Council of Orchestras
- Awarded the 2022 Conductor of the Year by the Illinois Council of Orchestras

#### **University of Chicago Chamber Orchestra**

2014-present

Music Director and Conductor

 Conduct the 40-45 person University Chamber Orchestra in weekly rehearsals, quarterly concerts, and annual collaboration as pit orchestra for G&S Company

- Coordinate with guest artists, clinicians, and coaches to provide unique and meaningful pedagogical experiences for UChicago students
- Provide a holistic and comprehensive music and arts education to students from a variety of backgrounds as they pursue a liberal arts education, crafting and assessing students in a curriculum that is both rigorous and inspiring

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## The Gilbert and Sullivan Opera Company of Chicago

2014-present

Music Director and Conductor

- Collaborate with the company director and producers to create a unified and compelling artistic vision for each show
- Oversee and manage all musical aspects of the company's productions, including:
  - Auditioning and casting singers for all productions
  - Securing, training, and overseeing accompanists
  - Coaching and rehearsing both chorus and principals
  - Conducting all rehearsals and performances

## **Hyde Park Youth Symphony Orchestra**

2015-present

Artistic Director

- Provide artistic leadership for three-person staff and volunteer board in implementing an engaging and comprehensive curriculum to nearly 90 HPYS students across five programs
- Create and implement long-term strategic plans and objectives to better serve our students and community, including developing and initiating partnerships and programs with community leaders such as a Community Brass Band at Progressive Beulah Pentecostal Church, a Chamber Music Program, and Starter Strings
- Conduct the top-level Youth Symphony in all rehearsals and performances

## **Champaign Urbana Symphony Orchestra**

2013-2016

**Assistant Conductor** 

- Attend all rehearsals and performances serving as on-call and off-stage conductor
- Lead rehearsals in the music director's absence, and assist in listening for balance and sound in rehearsals

## Sangamon Valley Civic Orchestra and Youth Symphony (now Illinois Symphony Youth Symphony)

2015-2018

Music Director and Conductor

- Design and direct all programming for both the Youth Symphony (students) and Civic Orchestra (adults); conduct weekly rehearsals and quarterly concerts
- Coordinate with feeder-programs to create a streamlined and integrated curriculum
- Work with the administrative staff and volunteer board to deliver the only orchestral education to Sangamon County after all string programs were cut in 1976

# Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Illinois

2014-2019

Lecturer

- Design semester-long courses on a variety of musical topics, including:
  - o The Symphony from 1764-1953
  - From Monteverdi to Glass: A Brief History of Opera
  - Tone Poems: Storytelling Through Music
  - o The Insider's Guide to the Orchestra
  - Stradivarius and Steinway: The Concerto Through the Ages
  - Music of the Church: Passions, Requiems, and Masses
- Lead classes in engaging and varied instructions to a musicians and musical audiences, including retired university faculty and professionals

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2015

**Assistant Conductor** 

Attend all rehearsals and performances serving as on-call and off-stage conductor

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- Lead rehearsals in the music director's absence, and assist in listening for balance and sound in rehearsals
- Serve as orchestra manager overseeing all logistics
- Coordinate the youth Chamber Music Program/Side-By-Side

## **State College Summer Orchestra**

2010-2013

Founding Music Director and Conductor

- Lead all artistic and administrative functions of the ensemble, including orchestra management, artistic programming, fundraising, and promotion
- Conduct rehearsals and twice-yearly performances as benefit concerts for local and international charitable organizations
- Helped commission and/or premiere works by contemporary composers, including new works by Efraín Amaya, Jon Bell, Stephen Hopkins, and George Woskob

Juniata College 2012-2013

**Director of Orchestras** 

- Lead the Juniata College Orchestra in all rehearsals and performances
- Determine programming and assess students as part of a liberal arts curriculum

#### **Central Pennsylvania Youth Orchestra**

2009-2013

**Assistant Conductor** 

- Lead the CPYO Chamber Orchestra, a string orchestra for developing players
- Regularly conduct the Youth Orchestra in the music director's absence, as well as lead sectionals and pull-out rehearsals
- Coordinate with the board of directors for production and orchestra management

# **Guest Conducting/Masterclasses**

Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra	2023
Elgin Symphony Orchestra	2022-2023
Greater Elgin Messiah SingAlong	2022
Neuqua Valley School District Orchestra Clinic	2022
District 300 Chamber Orchestra Festival	2022
York Community High School Festival	2022
Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras	2020
Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp International Youth Symphony Orchestra (cancelled due to COVID)	2019-20
Chicago Philharmonic Orchestra	2018
Champaign Urbana Symphony Orchestra	2014-2018
Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional del Paraguay	2016, 2018
Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestra	2018
Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp	2017-2019
Lake Geneva Symphony Orchestra	2015-2017
University of Chicago Symphony Orchestra	2016
Conservatorio Nacional de Música, Asunción, Paraguay	2015
Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra	2015
Sangamon Valley Civic Orchestra	2014
East Central Illinois Youth Orchestra	2014

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June 30, 2023

2023

**Illinois Council of Orchestras Panelist** 

Wheaton Conservatory ASTA Chapter presenter  ILMEA Large Group Festival Adjudicator (inaugural year)  U-46 Middle School Orchestra Adjudication	2023 2023 2023
Adjudications, Lectures, and Seminars	2022
*Composed for the Penn State Viola Ensemble and NY Viola Society, NYC, NY	
Canon in D/Prelude and Fugue by Stephen Hopkins Playroom by George Woskob Un Camino* by Efraín Amaya *Commissioned by Kim Cook for the State College Summer Orchestra, State College, PA	July 2013
mit starren Fingern* by Sean Harold  *Commissioned by the University of Illinois Symphony Orchestra; Champaign Urbana, IL	March 2014
Ashes and Iron* by Barry Morse *Commissioned by Dr. Nathan Mandel for the NA Saxophone Alliance, Champaign Urbana,	March 2014 IL
Concertante for Clarinet and Piano by Sunyeong Pak Psychogonia by Dongryul Lee Ludimus by Kyle Shaw UI Modern Ensemble, Champaign Urbana, IL	April 2015 Oct. 2014 April 2014
Rain by Jake Araujo-Simon Sextet by Noah Kahrs Spektral Quartet, Chicago, IL	May 2015
Witness Reunion by Ethan Parcell Manifest Anyway by Ethan Parcell Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra, Elgin, IL	April 2019 May 2017
Time Will Tell by Robert Pollak and Robert Ashenhurst  Gilbert and Sullivan Opera Company of Chicago, Chicago, IL	Nov. 2019
Concerto after Haydn by Sam Suggs (edition for chamber orchestra)  University of Chicago Chamber Orchestra, Chicago, IL	Nov. 2019
World Premieres	
Spamalot Champaign Urbana Theatre Company A Funny Thing Happened, Mary Poppins, The Producers	2013
The Barber of Seville Parkland Community College	2014
The Nutcracker (annual performances)  Pine Mountain Music Festival (Assistant Conductor)	2015
Witness Reunion Champaign Urbana Ballet Company (with the Champaign Urbana Symphony Orchestra)	2014-2018
Tell, Pirates of Penzance, HMS Pinafore Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra	2019
Gilbert and Sullivan Opera Company of Chicago  Yeomen of the Guard, Princess Ida, Iolanthe, Patience, Merrie England, Time Will	2014-present

Student Marshal, College of Arts and Architecture, Graduate with High Distinction