

Stephen Cunningham, DMA

Bass-Baritone

Curriculum Vitae ♦ (606) 219-9199

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Education

D.M.A. Vocal Performance	University of Minnesota, Twin Cities	October 2019
Thesis Topic: "The Low Male Voice Companion: A Guide for the Baritone, Bass-Baritone, and Bass Classifications"		
M.M. Vocal Performance and Pedagogy	Oklahoma State University	May 2011
B.M. Vocal Performance	University of North Texas	August 2009

Academic Positions

Fall 2022-present: Assistant Professor of Music - Voice **Valley City State University, Valley City, ND**

Duties:

- Instructing a full studio of majors, minors, and non-majors in half-hour/hour lessons.
- Leading weekly masterclasses with students in Studio Class.
- Teaching Aural Skills I & II, General Pedagogy, Applied Voice, Vocal Methods, Diction I&II, Music History I&II, Opera Ensemble.

Service:

- Serve on the General Education Council committee; Fall '22-present.
- Mentor for new Music Faculty; Fall '24.
- Organized and executed the Choral and Solo Song Festival; Spring '23.
- Music Events Coordinator for large concerts and events, including Music Hall of Fame Spring '23.
- Served as site manager for EDC (Eastern Dakota Conference); Fall '23-Spring '24.
- Served as music department representative on the Bridges Arts council; Fall '22- Spring '24.

Scholarship:

- Organized a studio recital of the AIDS Quilt Songbook within an AIDS Quilt Memorial Concert in collaboration with the Office of Diversity and Art Department.; Spring '23.
- Perform, teach, and stage direct for a 5-week summer opera program in Novafeltria, IT; '21-present.
- Clinicals and adjudication at universities and high schools; '22-present.

- Take students to NATS competition; '24

Summer 2021-present: Faculty

La Musica Lirica, Novafeltria, IT

Duties: Perform large, operatic roles for main stage shows. Teach private 45 minute voice lessons (4-8 students) twice a week for the 5 week program. Stage direct opera scenes for youngest students (young artist and studio artist categories).

Spring 2020-2021: Faculty Liaison to Admissions

Graceland University, Lamoni, IA

Duties: Work with Admissions to build numerous programs through recruitment of interested Visual and Performing Arts prospective students. Facilitator between 'VPA' and Admissions to refine parameters in 'VPA' recruitment.

Fall 2018-Spring 2022: Adjunct Professor of Voice

Graceland University, Lamoni, IA

Duties: Instruct overload studio of majors, minors, and non-majors in half-hour/hour lessons. Weekly masterclasses with students in a Music Seminar Class. Teach music and theater courses (Musics of the World, Vocal Pedagogy, Diction, Stage Dialects). Assisted in the development and restructure of Sophomore barrier and Senior recital protocols. Assisted in organizing and executing the Graceland University Vocal Day.

Fall 2017-Spring 2018: Voice Teacher

Keller ISD, TX

Duties: Work with fifty middle and intermediate school students on private voice repertoire for recital and All-State Solo/Ensemble purposes.

Performance Experience

2025	Balthazar, <i>Amahl and the Night Visitors</i>	Fargo-Moorhead Opera
2025	Servant/Messenger, <i>La Traviata</i>	Fargo-Moorhead Opera
2025	Dulcamara, <i>L'elisir d'Amore</i>	La Musica Lirica
2025	Faculty Recital: <i>House of Life</i>	Valley City State University
2024	Bartolo, <i>Le Nozze di Figaro</i>	La Musica Lirica
2024	Studio Recital: AIDS Quilt Songbook	Valley City State University
2024	Baritone Soloist: Rivelgete a lui lo sguardo, <i>Così fan tutte</i>	Valley City State University
2023	Falstaff, <i>Falstaff</i>	La Musica Lirica
2023	Commendatore, <i>Don Giovanni</i>	La Musica Lirica
2023	Faculty Recital: Wagner's Wesendonck Lieder	Valley City State University
2023	Baritone Soloist: Love bade me welcome, <i>Five Mystical Songs</i>	Valley City State University
2022	Gianni Schicchi, <i>Gianni Schicchi</i>	La Musica Lirica
2022	Benoît, <i>La bohème</i>	La Musica Lirica
2021	Don Magnifico, <i>La Cenerentola</i>	La Musica Lirica
2021	Baritone Soloist: <i>Five Mystical Songs</i>	Graceland University Choirs
2020	Faculty Recital: Wagner's Wesendonck Lieder	Graceland University
2019	Baritone Soloist: Christmas at the Shaw	Graceland University Choirs
2019	Faculty Recital: Wagner Arias	Graceland University
2019	King Duncan, <i>Macbeth</i>	Graceland University Theatre
2018	Baritone Soloist: Christmas at the Shaw	Graceland University Choirs

2018	Faculty Recital: Verdi Arias	Graceland University
2018	Baritone Soloist: <i>Ich habe genug</i>	St. Rita Catholic Church
2018	Baritone Soloist: <i>Messiah</i>	St. Rita Catholic Church
2017	Baritone Soloist: <i>Brahms' Requiem</i>	St. Rita Catholic Church
2017	Recording: <i>Sister Carrie</i>	Naxos label
2016	Captain/Prince Abdul, <i>Sister Carrie</i>	Florentine Opera Company
2016	Falstaff, <i>Falstaff</i>	La Musica Lirica
2016	Baritone Soloist: <i>Beethoven's 9th</i>	Kenwood Symphony Orchestra
2016	Bonze, <i>Madama Butterfly</i>	University of Minnesota
2015	Jimmy, <i>Mahagonny Songspiel</i>	Kurt Weill Honorarium
2015	Don Annibale, <i>Il Campanello</i>	Community Outreach
2015	Sulpice/Hortensius, <i>La Fille du Regiment</i>	Mill City Summer Opera
2015	Commendatore, <i>Don Giovanni</i>	Journey North Opera Company
2015	Figaro, <i>Le Nozze di Figaro</i>	University of Minnesota
2015	Secretary of Defense, <i>Manchurian Candidate</i>	Minnesota Opera
2014	Baritone Soloist: Vivaldi <i>Magnificat</i>	University of Minnesota
2014	Performing Artist: <i>Memory Boy</i> workshop	Minnesota Opera
2014	Escamillo, <i>Carmen</i>	University of Minnesota
2014	Scarpia, <i>Tosca</i>	Mill City Summer Opera
2014	Performing Artist: <i>The Shining</i> workshop	Minnesota Opera
2014	Commendatore, <i>Don Giovanni</i>	University of Minnesota
2014	Performing Artist: <i>Manchurian Candidate</i> workshop	Minnesota Opera
2013	Figaro, <i>Le Nozze di Figaro</i>	Opera Orvieto
2013	Bottom, <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	University of Minnesota
2013	Baritone Soloist: <i>Le Bestiaire</i> , Graduate Recital	UMN Piano Recital
2012	Falstaff, <i>Falstaff</i>	University of Minnesota
2012	Performing Artist: New Works	UMN New Works Recital
2012	Baritone Soloist: <i>Vier Ernste Gesange</i> , Graduate Recital	UMN Piano Recital
2012	Performing Artist: <i>Doubt</i> workshop	Minnesota Opera

Clinicals

2025	Clinician	Maple Valley PS, ND
2025	Clinician	Valley City PS, ND
2025	Clinician	Del Mar College, TX
2024	Clinician	Maple Valley PS, ND
2024	Clinician	Dakota Prairie PS, ND
2024	Masterclass Clinician	Western Ontario University, ON
2023	Clinician: KELOEE Music Festival	LaMoure, ND
2023	Clinician	Valley City HS, ND
2023	Clinician	Lisbon HS, ND
2023	Clinician	Ashley PS, ND
2023	Clinician	LaMoure HS, ND
2023	Clinician	Enderlin HS, ND
2023	Clinician	Maple Valley PS, ND
2022	Clinician	Enderlin HS, ND
2022	Clinician	Lisbon HS, ND
2022	Clinician	Ellendale HS, ND
2022	Clinician	Edgeley HS, ND

2022	Masterclass Clinician	La Musica Lirica
2021	Masterclass Clinician	La Musica Lirica
2021	Clinician	Decatur County High School
2019	Clinician	South Harrison High School
2018	Clinician	Decatur County High School

Directing, Teaching, & Young Artist

2026	Vocal Festival: Solo Song Teacher, Organizer	Valley City State
2025	Summer Program: Stage Director, Teacher	Novafeltria, IT
2024	Summer Program: Stage Director, Teacher	Novafeltria, IT
2023	Summer Program: La Musica Lirica - Teacher	Novafeltria, IT
2023	Vocal Festival: Solo Song - Teacher, Organizer	Valley City State
2022	Stage Director: <i>Rocky Horror Show</i>	Graceland University
2022	Summer Program: La Musica Lirica - Teacher	Novafeltria, IT
2021	Stage Director: Musical Theater Scenes	Graceland University Theatre
2021	Summer Program: La Musica Lirica - Teacher	Baraboo, WI
2018	Vocal Festival: Solo Song - Teacher, Organizer	Graceland University
2016	Summer Program: La Musica Lirica - Contracted Singer	Novafeltria, IT
2015	Summer Program: Mill City Summer Opera - Young Artist	Minneapolis, MN
2014	Summer Program: Mill City Summer Opera - Young Artist	Minneapolis, MN
2013	Collaboration Program: Minnesota Opera/UMN - Young Artist	Minneapolis, MN
2013	Summer Program: Opera Orvieto - Contracted Singer	Orvieto, IT
2012	Summer Program: Mill City Summer Opera - Student	Minneapolis, MN

Choral Experience

2025	Valley City, ND	Opera Ensemble Concert	Director/Conductor
2024	Valley City, ND	V-500 Christmas Concert	Director/Conductor
2024	Valley City, ND	Opera Ensemble Concert	Director/Conductor
2023	LaMoure, ND	KELOEE Music Festival	Conductor
2023	Valley City, ND	Opera Ensemble Concert	Director/Conductor
2019-2020	Lamoni, IA	Community of Christ Church	Choral Director
2017-2018	Dallas, TX	St. Rita Catholic	Section Leader
2011-2016	St. Paul, MN	Hamline United Methodist	Section Leader
2011	Minneapolis, MN	First Christian Church	Section Leader
2009-2011	Stillwater, OK	First Christian Church	Section Leader
2006-2009	Dallas, TX	St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal	Section Leader

References

Pamela Hinchman, Associate Professor of Voice, Northwestern University, p-hinchman@northwestern.edu

Mark Crayton, Professor of Voice, Roosevelt University, mcrayton@roosevelt.edu

Brygida Bziukiewicz-Kulig, General Director, La Musica Lirica, brygida.kulig@lamusicalirica.com

John De Haan, Associate Professor of Voice, University of Minnesota, dehaao6@umn.edu

Dr. Alicia Wallace, Voice Faculty, Eastman Community Music School, aliciarwallace@gmail.com

Kim Manuel, Assistant Professor of Theatre and Design, Graceland University, kmanuel@graceland.edu