

Nicholas S. Foster - Curriculum Vitae

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Qualifications

Professional singer, actor, pianist, conductor, stage director, music director and educator with experience teaching students ages five to adult, amateur to professional. Experienced in group and private instruction. Knowledge of anatomy/physiology of the voice and its application in classical and musical theatre/CCM (Contemporary Commercial Music) technique. Proficient French speaker/writer.

Education

Boston Conservatory, 2012

Master of Music, *Vocal Pedagogy*

Boston University, 2010

Bachelor of Music, *Voice Performance*

Supplemental Education

Feierabend Association for Music Education

Biennial National Conference - 2014, 2016

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

Voice, Speech and Swallowing Clinic: Training Transgender Voices - 2016

American Choral Directors' Association

National Conference - Boston, MA - 2016

Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary

Seminar for Singers: Piloting Your Vocal Destiny with Warm-ups and Cool-downs - 2012

Boston University Tanglewood Institute

Young Artists' Vocal Program - Lenox, MA - 2006

Workshops, Seminars and Presentations

Northeast Professional Educators' Network

Chelmsford High School - Chelmsford, MA - November 2018

“Useful Books for the Elementary General Music Classroom”

- Presented a one-hour interactive seminar to forty music educator professionals at a professional development workshop in November 2018
- Demonstrated selected works in a mock classroom setting
- Integrated a handout highlighting selected resources' potential uses in an elementary general music classroom, offering personal insight and tips for conducting a successful class
- Compiled and distributed a list of useful resources in addition to material presented in workshop
- Handouts available upon request

Professional Experience

RSU 29 - Houlton Middle/High School

Middle School/High School Vocal Teacher - Long-Term Substitute

Houlton, ME - October 2019 to present

- Instruct two separate sixth grade general music classes of up to ten students per quarter, where students learn about opera and the conventions and techniques used in the art form
- Lead middle school and high school choirs, choosing varied repertoire for each
- Accompany each vocal ensemble in the absence of district accompanist
- Teach a high school History of Musical Theatre course that provides an overview of the history of the art form, from its beginnings in operetta and comic opera to its current state
- Coach middle school and high school show choir groups, choosing repertoire that is suitable to their voices but also provides room for growth in both ensembles
- Directed the One Act play, accompanied students to the Maine Regional Drama Festival; two students were recognized for outstanding acting
- Worked with students to improve acting in individual scenes for fall musical

Greater Boston Stage Company

Voice Instructor

Stoneham, MA - September 2016 to October 2019

- Taught half hour voice lessons to students ages 8-18
- Focused on musical theatre repertoire
- Accompanied students on piano during lessons and recitals

All Newton Music School

Voice / Piano / Theatre Instructor

West Newton, MA - September 2013 to October 2019

- Taught private voice and piano lessons to beginner, intermediate and advanced students
- Led a group voice class consisting of six elementary school students wishing to further their private vocal studies
- Led a theatre class of sixteen 6- to 10-year-old students, culminating in one to two productions per year
- Taught groups of up to twenty 6- to 10-year-old students at the Summer Music Explorers camp in instrumental, vocal, and theatre classes

Lawrence Public Schools - JF Hennessey School

General Music Instructor, Grades K-2

Lawrence, MA - August 2016 to December 2018

- Taught general music to five kindergarten classes, four first grade classes, and four second grade classes, using Dr. John Feierabend's *First Steps* and *Conversational Solfege* curriculum as a road map for instruction and musical development for all students
- Created a music program with no previously existing music department
- Incorporated developmentally appropriate literacy skill building into weekly lessons
- Integrated ELL strategies and modify lessons for students with disabilities
- Facilitated, organized and supervised over 300 students for weekly enrichment activities at Boys & Girls' Club of Lawrence

Dean College

Adjunct Professor of Voice and Theatre / Collaborative Pianist / Music Director

Franklin, MA - April 2013 to May 2016

- Instructed Voice for the Stage, a class of up to twenty-five theatre and musical theatre majors in methods such as Linklater, Alexander Technique and the Lovetri Method, coaching monologues and group scene work, focusing on character voice work and resonance; monitored students' progress according to college standards and submit grades in a timely fashion; maintained weekly office hours
- Coached musical theatre scenes for junior and senior theatre majors
- Accompanied senior showcase performance for graduating musical theatre majors' friends, family and casting agents, both in Franklin, MA and New York City
- Played piano and coached singers in two musical theatre performance classes, in collaboration with an acting instructor
- Musically directed musical theatre mainstage shows (one per year)
- Taught private voice lessons to straight theatre, musical theatre, and non-theatre majors
- Adjudicated annual voice juries; ensure each student's preparedness for exam
- Organized two voice recitals per semester for all private students (2013-2014)
- Instructed Group Voice for the Summer Musical Theatre Intensive program for high school students interested in pursuing musical theatre as a career (2013-2014)

Metropolitan Opera Guild

Choral Artist

Offices in New York, NY and Boston, MA - February 2012 to June 2016

- Taught choral music in urban classroom environments*, Grades K - 8, with up to twenty-five students per class
**Massachusetts public schools in Dorchester, Revere and Lawrence, MA*
- Communicated verbally and electronically with administrators, classroom teachers and paraprofessionals on a weekly basis to ensure instruction runs smoothly and targets appropriate learning goals
- Formulated curriculum maps and lesson plans to reinforce subjects of study in general classroom; plans and maps reflect standards mandated by Common Core
- Coordinated two sharing events per school, per year
- Integrated opera-based techniques into weekly lesson plans, introducing students to basic operatic concepts

Self - Employed

Voice / Piano Instructor

Various Locations - September 2010 to present

- Maintain a small private studio, with ten to twelve students per year, ranging from beginner to professional
- Instruct students in healthy vocal technique, starting with basic understanding of anatomy and physiology
- Build technique from the “ground up” - starting with breath, then moving to pitch accuracy (if necessary), posture, tone, diction and artistry, to name a few
- Assign repertoire appropriate to age, fach, and interest level
- Encourage a breadth of musical knowledge, including classical, jazz, pop and musical theatre repertoire
- Incorporate theory and aural skills into weekly lessons to ensure musical well-roundedness
- Organize annual recitals to showcase students’ growth

Boston Conservatory Vocal/Choral Institute

Voice Instructor

Boston, MA - Summer 2011

- Taught intermediate and advanced sight singing/ear training courses
- Instructed English diction course, familiarizing students with the International Phonetic Alphabet
- Privately taught voice lessons to eight students, coaching familiar repertoire and assigning at least one new song to each individual student

Directing Experience

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Music Director
The Young Company at Greater Boston Stage Company, 2019

Disaster! The Musical, Music Director
The Un-Common Theatre Company, 2018

Smokey Joe's Cafe, Music Director
MMAS Black Box Theatre, 2017

The Great American Trailer Park, Music Director
MMAS Black Box Theatre, 2017

American Idiot, Music Director
Curry College, 2016

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change, Music Director
MMAS Black Box Theatre, 2016

Xanadu, Music Director
Moonstruck Theatre, 2015

The Addams Family, Music Director
Alexander Children's Theatre School, 2015

In the Heights, Music Director
Dean College, 2015

A Christmas Carol, Music Director
Hingham Civic Music Theatre, 2014

Spring Awakening, Music Director
Dean College, 2014

Little Shop of Horrors, Music Director
Babson College, 2013

Legally Blonde, Music Director
Boston Conservatory, 2013

Cradle Will Rock, Music Director
Boston Conservatory, 2012

Reefer Madness, Music Director
Boston Conservatory, 2011

Into the Woods, Stage Director
Boston University, 2008

Fame, Music Director
Boston University, 2007

Performing Experience

Musical Theatre - Roles

Fabrizio, <i>The Light in the Piazza</i>	Beatrice Hereford's Vokes Theatre	Fall 2015
Henrik, <i>A Little Night Music</i>	Curtain Call Theatre - Braintree	Spring 2015
Gabe, <i>Next to Normal</i>	Back Bay Repertory	Fall 2012
Tobias, <i>Sweeney Todd</i>	MIT Gilbert & Sullivan Players	Summer 2010
Rocky, <i>Rocky Horror Show</i>	BU on Broadway	Fall 2009
Sir Evelyn, <i>Anything Goes</i>	BU Stage Troupe	Spring 2009

Opera - Partial Roles

Nemorino, <i>L'Elisir d'Amore</i>	Boston Conservatory	Spring 2011
Albert, <i>Albert Herring</i>	The Coaching Divas	Summer 2010
Miles, <i>The Turn of the Screw</i>	The Coaching Divas	Summer 2009
Paul, <i>They Toy Shop</i>	The Coaching Divas	Summer 2009
Little Bat, <i>Susannah</i>	The Coaching Divas	Summer 2009

Master Classes

Christopher Mitchell, tenor	Boston Conservatory	Fall 2011
Simon Estes, bass-baritone	Boston University	Fall 2010
Phyllis Curtin, soprano	Boston University	Spring 2009

Voice Instructors

Dr. Kerry Deal, Phyllis Hoffman, Barbara Hogan

Vocal Coaches

Dr. Michelle Alexander, Michael Strauss, Sondra Kelly, Dr. Sheila Kibbe, Allison Voth, Bob Mollicone

Vocal Pedagogy/Anatomy

Kevin Wilson, Tara Cohen

Vocal Literature

Dr. Thomas Gregg, Michael Strauss, Dr. Michelle Alexander, Dr. Jodi Goble