



BENJAMIN LUGINBUHL

CHORAL MUSIC EDUCATOR

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SUMMARY

Dynamic, National Board Certified choral music educator, with 26 years of experience teaching students of all grade levels K-12. Top Ten Finalist for Illinois Teacher of the Year. Leadership experience for more than 20 years as music department chair in local school, as well as service to regional and state music educators through service to professional organizations.

WORK EXPERIENCE

McLean County Unit Schools, Normal, Illinois

Choral Music Teacher
1998-Present

- **Normal Community High School: 1998-Present**
 - Organize, conduct, and oversee a program of 175+ students in five curricular choirs and three extra-curricular choirs for students in grades 9-12
 - Plan and produce a minimum of 12 public performances per school year, including choir concerts, Madrigal productions, musicals, and performances throughout the community
 - Produce, teach vocals, and conduct the pit orchestra for the annual school musical
 - Other course assignments in my tenure: AP Music Theory (8 years), American Popular Music (3 years)
- **Kingsley and Chiddix Junior High Schools: 1998-2007**
 - Organized, conducted, and oversaw a choir program, including extra-curricular ensembles, for students in grades 7 and 8
 - Prepared and planned general music lessons for students in grades K-5
 - Served as Music Department Chair at Chiddix Junior High
- **Towanda and Eugene Field Elementary Schools: 1998-2000, 2011-2013**
 - Prepared and planned general music lessons for students in grades K-5

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS & LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

- **American Choral Director's Association: 1996-Present**
 - Illinois Chapter Board: District 3 Representative, 2016-2019
 - Organized three volunteer choruses for clinicians, IL-ACDA Summer Retreat
 - Co-creator of the Central Illinois Treble Choir Festival, 2020-Present
 - High School Honor Chorus Co-Manager, 2023 Fall Conference
 - Attended, at times hosted, and contributed to annual board meetings
 - University of Illinois Collegiate Chapter President, 1997
- **Illinois Music Education Association (ILMEA): 1994-Present**
 - District 3 Senior Chorus Chair, 2002-2006, 2009-2017, 2022-2023
 - Oversaw auditions, procured and collaborated with guest conductors, managed senior choruses of 175+ singers, led director meetings, served as clinician host at Illinois Music Education Conference
 - District 3 President, 2006-2009
 - Oversaw all operations of District 3 music activities, hired conductors, procured rental and logistics of district festivals with over 1,000 student performers, attended and contributed to State Board of Directors meetings, served at Illinois Music Education Conference
 - Emerging Leaders Conference, 2005
 - University of Illinois Collegiate Chapter Vice-President, 1997

EDUCATION AND ENDORSEMENTS

Master of Music Education

Illinois State University, Normal • May 2014

Master of Science in Education

Illinois State University, Normal • May 2004
Type 75 Administrative Certification Obtained

Bachelor of Music Education

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign • May 1998
University Honors / Bronze Tablet Scholar

National Board Certified Teacher

Music: Early Adolescence through Young Adult
Achieved 2010 • Renewed 2021

OTHER LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

- **Music Department Chair, Normal Community High School: 2004-Present**
 - Lead a departmental staff of three full-time and two part-time teachers
 - Plan and oversee budgets for supplies, repair, and dry cleaning
 - Attend and contribute to monthly department chair meetings with administration
 - Collaborate with music department chairs from other district schools to provide inservice to district music teachers and provide leadership for music department initiatives
- **Standards-Based Curriculum Development: 2016-Present**
 - Developed new standards-based grading targets for three curricular choir courses for implementation in the 2018-2019 school year
 - Developed new standards-based grading targets for American Popular Music Course for implementation in the 2021-2022 school year
 - Continually evaluate learning targets and best practices for teaching
- **Cooperating Teacher, 2000-Present**
 - Advise and aid in the development of over 30 student teachers from Illinois State University (ISU), Illinois Wesleyan University (IWU), University of Illinois (UIUC), Bradley University, and Millikin University
 - Welcome many pre-student teachers from ISU, IWU, and Millikin into my classroom for practice teaching episodes
 - Provide multiple undergraduate education students with observation hours in the classroom
- **Clinician at Illinois Music Education Conference: January 2016**
 - Presented to over 100 Illinois music educators: "Assessing Your Choir Students Through Chamber Music"
- **Illinois High School Association Music Advisory Committee: 2014-2016**
 - Discussed and decided on policy and rules for IHSA Music activities
- **Speaking Engagements and Presentations to Music Education Students: Multiple Years**
 - Guest appearances for music methods classes at Illinois State University and Illinois Wesleyan University, as well as ICMEA and ACDA Chapters
 - Topics: The changing male voice, budgeting for a choir program, How to Put on a Musical Production, Assessment in the Choral Classroom
- **IHSA Solo-Ensemble Contest Host: Multiple Years (currently every other year)**
 - Coordinate and schedule a music festival with over 1,000 entries
 - Communicate and facilitate needs of music teachers from 20-24 area high schools
 - Secure up to 30 adjudicators and 120 parent and student volunteers

AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS, & ENGAGEMENTS

- **Top Ten Finalist, Illinois Teacher of the Year, 2019**
- **Illinois State Board of Education Those Who Excel: Classroom Teacher Award, 2018**
- **National Federation of High Schools Outstanding Music Educator Award, 2016**
- **Normal Community High School Choir Invitations for Performance:**
 - February 2024: Chamber Choir joint performance with Illinois State University Concert Choir
 - 2019: Chamber Choir joint performance with Augustana College Choir
 - 2019: Chamber Choir invited to IllinoiSINGS Festival, University of Illinois
 - 2018: Chamber Choir joint performance with Cor Cantiamo (professional chamber choir)
 - 2015: Chamber Choir invited to perform at State Farm "Sounds of Christmas" Program
 - 2014: Chamber Choir selected performance at Illinois Music Education Conference
 - 2012: Chamber Choir joint performance with Illinois State University Concert Choir
 - 2011: Chamber Choir joint performance with Millikin University Chamber Chorale
 - 2011: Bass Choir joint performance with Illinois State University Men's Glee Club
 - 2006: Chamber Choir featured performing ensemble at Millikin University Vocal Festival
 - 2001: Chamber Choir featured performing ensemble at Peoria Civic Chorale "American Family Christmas" concert
- **Guest Conducting Invitations: 1999-Present**
 - ILMEA District 2: Three conducting engagements for Junior Mixed and Junior Treble Choruses
 - ILMEA District 5: Junior Mixed Chorus Conductor
 - ILMEA District 8: Junior Mixed Chorus Conductor
 - Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) Music Festival, Olivet Nazarene University
 - Two engagements conducting the Senior Chorus
 - One engagement conducting the Junior Chorus
 - Four high school athletic conference music festival conducting engagements
 - Two junior high school athletic conference music festival conducting engagements
 - Illinois Summer Youth Music (ISYM), University of Illinois
 - Junior Chorus Camp Conductor
 - Junior and Senior Chorus Camp Section Leader, 20 years
 - Peoria Area Civic Chorale High School Honors Chorus Guest Conductor, 2003