




# Leia Wasbotten

## DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS

Accomplished and award-winning music educator, administrator, academic leader, director, and performer with significant experience in higher education. Dedicated to encouraging growth and passion in students, faculty, and administrative staff alike.

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## EDUCATION

### 2022 - DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS - ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Major: Vocal Performance

Dissertation and research on *Classical to Contemporary: The Evolution of Classically-Driven Vocal Pedagogy in a Contemporary Studio*

-Continuing research on contemporary vocal pedagogy. Goal is to publish scholarship in book format by 2028, elaborating on how classically trained vocal educators can easily and successfully implement modern vocal pedagogy into their classrooms and voice studios.

Recipient of Special Talent Scholarship and Choral Scholarship

GPA: 4.0

### 2019 - MASTER OF MUSIC - ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Major: Vocal Performance and Pedagogy

Related Coursework: Acting, Musical Theatre, Opera

Research related to choral and solo vocal pedagogy, *To Vibrato or Not to Vibrato*

-Continuing research on choral vocal pedagogy

Recipient of Choral Excellence Scholarship, Special Talent Scholarship, and Choral Scholarship

### 2015 - BACHELOR OF ARTS - THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

Major: Music, Emphasis in Vocal Performance

Related Coursework: Rehabilitation and Human Services, Psychology, Sociology

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## WORK EXPERIENCE

### MESA COMMUNITY COLLEGE - RESIDENTIAL FACULTY

2022-PRESENT (ADJUNCT 2019-2022)

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR OF MUSICAL THEATRE DEPARTMENT/VOICE AREA LEAD

- Administrative duties include monitoring department budget, selecting musical productions for the season, hiring adjunct voice faculty and guest artists, scheduling masterclasses with professional organizations, responsible for all voice adjuncts, voice studios, accompanist and teacher schedules, voice recitals, juries, as well as administrative lead for summer musical theatre camp. Other responsibilities include preparing students for American College Theatre Festival and Open Jar Institute as well as other professional and educational auditions and opportunities, outreach and recruitment for music theatre program, and providing students with audition opportunities outside of MCC. Music Director and/or Stage Director of musical theatre productions, professor of voice including teaching private voice lessons, Class Voice, Vocal Pedagogy, Broadway Solos, and Audition Techniques. Department Assessment Data analyst.

**CONT.**

**DR. LEIA WASBOTTEN VOICE STUDIO - PRIVATE VOICE INSTRUCTOR**

2014-PRESENT

- Specialize in teaching vocal health and techniques in genres ranging from classical, musical theater, pop, gospel, country, and jazz. Prepare students for college auditions, Regional and All-State Choruses, community and professional musical theater auditions, Disney auditions, and Honors Performance Series both in Carnegie Hall and Sydney Opera House. Responsible for the organization of schedule, finances, as well as 25+ students and their individual needs. NATS teacher.

**SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PARISH - WORSHIP LEADER**

2021-PRESENT

- Lead soloist and occasional tenor or alto on praise team at Catholic Church. All contemporary music with full band. Responsible for preparing 6-8 songs each week, singing at two masses and attending two rehearsals. Also the in-house worship and vocal health clinician leading pedagogy workshops once a semester, while also assisting Young Adult Groups with their worship nights. Published composer with Oregon Catholic Press (OCP).

**PHOENIX CHORALE - PROFESSIONAL SINGER**

2015-PRESENT

- Alto or Soprano in professional, GRAMMY-award winning ensemble. Responsible for preparing all notes, rhythms, text, and musicality of 15-20 pieces prior to first rehearsals and updating music as needed outside of rehearsal times. Occasional soloist. Four concert series a year with six rehearsals per series, plus a pro-bono concert, Songfest, where the women of the Chorale participate in outreach with other female choruses around Arizona. Recording artist.

**CANTO VIVO CHORALE - PROFESSIONAL SINGER**

2020-2025

- Alto singer in semi-professional vocal ensemble ranging from 25-45 singers. Responsible for preparing all notes, rhythms, text, and musicality of repertoire for each rehearsal. One rehearsal per week, two performances per semester. Tour of Austria, Germany, and Prague summer 2022.

**ARIZONA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY - DIRECTOR OF VOCAL STUDIES**

2021-2022

- Oversee voice department and teach 20-25 private students, musical theater courses, choir classes, and worship music/self-accompaniment classes. Responsible for administrative tasks such as scheduling classes and lessons, accompanying students, helping students schedule and plan junior and senior recitals, administering juries, holding voice studios weekly, hiring guest clinicians for masterclasses and workshops, guest conducting for musical theater and choir performances, working in tandem with other music faculty for performances and other collaborative events.

**MESA COMMUNITY COLLEGE - ADJUNCT FACULTY**

2019-2022

- Teacher of Voice including teaching Class Voice, Pedagogy, select choirs, as well as private students and voice studio which entails leading masterclasses for voice students. Responsible for lesson planning, grading, use of Canvas, choosing repertoire, classroom management, and communication skills. Help to guide students through success at regional and national auditions, competitions, and musical theater casting.

**CONT.**

**ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY - GRADUATE ARTIST - GOSPEL CHOIR**

2021-2022

- Work in tandem with Professor Nathan De'Shon Myers to coordinate musical and artistic aspects of Gospel Choir including repertoire selections, soloist placements, running rehearsals, leading the choir in warmups, knowing notes and rhythms for all voice parts and singing in rehearsals or concerts, coordinating concert attire and concert set up, creating learning materials for the choir like playlists of repertoire, lyric sheets, and rehearsal tracks. Featured soloist.

**ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY - FACULTY ASSOCIATE - GOSPEL CHOIR**

2018-2019

- Responsible for administrative duties for the course, taught by Dr. Jason Thompson, such as attendance and grading as well as leading rehearsals, teaching and choosing repertoire for a group of over 135 singers. Featured soloist.

**THE PHOENIX THEATRE COMPANY - MUSIC DIRECTOR - SUMMER CAMP**

2019

- Responsible for choosing and teaching appropriate repertoire for groups of 20-30 children ages 4 to 9. Rehearsal and performance pianist, voice instructor for general camp population and assistant to campers on the spectrum. Work hand-in-hand with camps' Teaching Artists to construct showcase for students to perform at the end of each week.

**DESERT FOOTHILLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - CHOIR DIRECTOR**

2016-2019

- In charge of teaching, planning, choosing repertoire and musically directing a group ranging from 15-20 singers, while working closely with the Pastor and church administrative team to coordinate musical choices with the structure of each individual service.

**STATE COLLEGE AREA HIGH SCHOOL - MUSIC DIRECTOR - A CAPPELLA GROUP**

2014-2015

- Responsible for teaching, planning, and musically directing the group of 8-15 high school students. Helped prepare group for ICCA Competitions and coordinate various concerts and recitals within the school and the community.

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**PROFESSIONAL  
ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**RAGTIME - ENSEMBLE - ARIZONA MUSICFEST**

2026

DIR. MARK STODDARD, MUSIC DIR. JOSH CONDON

**9 TO 5 - JUDY - MESA ENCORE THEATRE**

2023

\*ARIZONI NOMINATION - BEST ACTRESS IN LEADING ROLE

**MICHAEL BUBLÉ - BACKUP SINGER**

2023

**GODSPELL - DISCIPLE (LEARN YOUR LESSONS WELL) - ARIZONA STATE UNIV.**

2022

**JEWISH FREE LOAN ANNUAL GRATITUDE GATHERING - SOLOIST**

2021

**LA CASA DE CRISTO LUTHERAN CHURCH - SOLOIST/SECTION LEADER**

2021

**ARTS AT NATIVITY: CHRISTMAS - EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY - SOLOIST**

2021

CONT.

**LOVE OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH CHRISTMAS CANTATA - SOLOIST**

2021

**CHANUKAH-CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION - SCOTTSDALE BIBLE CHURCH - SOLOIST**

2020

**ARTS AT NATIVITY: MLK CONCERT - EPISC. CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY - SOLOIST**

2020

**ARTS AT NATIVITY: CHRISTMAS CONCERT - EPISC. CHURCH OF NATIVITY - SOLOIST**

2019

**DISTANT WORLDS: MUSIC FROM FINAL FANTASY - VOCALIST**

2019

**LOVE OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH - CHRISTMAS CANTATA - SOLOIST**

2019

**THE PHOENIX THEATRE COMPANY'S NEW WORKS FESTIVAL - VOCALIST/SOLOIST**

2019

**BERNSTEIN'S MASS - SOPRANO SOLOIST/STREET CHORUS - ARIZONA STATE UNIV.**

2018

**GAME OF THRONES LIVE CONCERT EXPERIENCE - VOCALIST**

2018

**THE KING'S CAROLERS - VOCALIST**

2018

**PHOENIX BACH SOCIETY - ALTO**

2018

**THE ROLLING STONES ZIP CODE TOUR - VOCALIST**

2015

**PUCCINI'S LA BOHEME - ENSEMBLE - THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIV.**

2012

**MARK ADAMO'S LITTLE WOMEN - SOPRANO - THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIV.**

2012

**BERNSTEIN'S MASS - ROBED CHORUS - THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIV.**

2012

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**MUSIC/STAGE  
DIRECTION**

**INTO THE WOODS - DIRECTOR - MESA COMMUNITY COLLEGE (MCC)**

2026

**BRIGHT STAR - MUSIC DIRECTOR - MCC**

2025

**SISTER ACT - DIRECTOR - MCC**

2025

**BE MORE CHILL - DIRECTOR - MCC**

2024

\*ARIZONI WINNER BEST OVERALL PRODUCTION

**ORDINARY DAYS - DIRECTOR - MCC**

2024

\*ARIZONI NOMINATION BEST DIRECTOR: MUSICAL

**HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME - MUSIC DIRECTOR - MCC**

2024

\*ARIZONI WINNER BEST MUSIC DIRECTION, WINNER BEST OVERALL PRODUCTION

**ANYTHING GOES - ASSISTANT MUSIC DIRECTOR - MCC**

2023

**AN EVENING WITH KINOSIAN AND BLAIR - CABARET - MUSIC/STAGE DIRECTOR - MCC**

2023

**SOMETHING ROTTEN - VOCAL MUSIC DIRECTOR - MCC**

2023

\*ARIZONI WINNER BEST OVERALL PRODUCTION

**CONT.**

**ADDAM'S FAMILY - ASSISTANT MUSIC DIRECTOR - MCC**

2022

**BRIGHT STAR - VOCAL MUSIC DIRECTOR - ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY**

2022

\*ARIZONI NOMINATION BEST MUSIC DIRECTION

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**MASTERCLASSES/  
PRESENTATIONS/  
WORKSHOPS**

**VOCAL PEDAGOGY/WORSHIP VOCALS MASTERCLASS CLINICIAN - ST. THOMAS MORE**

2025

**VOCAL PEDAGOGY IN CHORAL ROOM CLINICIAN - MCCLINTOCK HIGH SCHOOL**

2025

**VOCAL PEDAGOGY/WORSHIP VOCALS MASTERCLASS CLINICIAN - ST. THOMAS MORE**

2024

**VOCAL HEALTH IN THE CHORAL CLASSROOM - PRESENTER - ARIZONA ACDA CONF.**

2023

**VOCAL PEDAGOGY CLINICIAN - HORIZON HIGH SCHOOL**

2023

**GUEST ARTIST/CLINICIAN - SHEPHERD JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL**

2023

**CONTEMPORARY VOCAL STYLES CLINICIAN - KATHERINE ROSENFELD PRIVATE STUDIO**

2022

**CONTEMPORARY VOCAL STYLES CLINICIAN - ANDREW SQUIRES PRIVATE STUDIO**

2022

**WORSHIP AND MUSIC THEATRE PEDAGOGY CLINICIAN - ARIZONA CHRISTIAN UNIV.**

2021

**GOSPEL STYLE CLINICIAN - GOSPEL CHOIR - ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY**

2021

**CONTEMPORARY VOCAL STYLES CLINICIAN - JENNIFER NAGY PRIVATE STUDIO**

2021

**VOCAL COACH - GILBERT CLASSICAL ACADEMY**

2018-2019

**VOCAL PEDAGOGY IN CHORAL ROOM CLINICIAN - HAVERFORD HIGH SCHOOL**

2019

**VOCAL COACH - CHRIST'S GREENFIELD LUTHERAN SCHOOL**

2019

**VOCAL PEDAGOGY MASTERCLASS INSTRUCTOR - GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY**

2017

**VOCAL PEDAGOGY IN CHORAL ROOM CLINICIAN - HERITAGE ACADEMY**

2017

**VOCAL PEDAGOGY IN CHORAL ROOM CLINICIAN - GREENWAY HIGH SCHOOL**

2017

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**VOLUNTEER**

**VICE PRESIDENT, PROGRAMMING - VALLEY OF THE SUN NATS CHAPTER**

2022-2023

**ADJUDICATOR - VALLEY OF THE SUN NATS REGIONAL STUDENT AUDITIONS**

2019-PRESENT

**ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER - VALLEY OF THE SUN NATS CHAPTER**

2021-2022

**MUSIC DIRECTOR - PENN STATE UNIV. A CAPPELLA GROUP, SHADES OF BLUE**

2012-2014

**AWARDS**

**EVELYN EBERHARD GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP - ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY**

2022

**SECOND PLACE WINNER, ADVANCED MUSIC THEATRE - NATS CALWESTERN AUDITION**

2021

**FIRST PLACE WINNER, ADULT CCM - NATS VALLEY OF THE SUN AUDITIONS (VSNATS)**

2020

**SECOND PLACE WINNER, ADULT MUSIC THEATRE - VSNATS AUDITION**

2020

**THIRD PLACE WINNER, ASU'S GOT TALENT - ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY**

2018

**HONORABLE MENTION, ADVANCED COLLEGE CLASSICAL - VSNATS AUDITIONS**

2021

**GRAND PRIZE WINNER, CENTRE SINGS - STATE COLLEGE, PA**

2015

**GRAND PRIZE WINNER, HAPPY VALLEY'S GOT TALENT - STATE COLLEGE, PA**

2014

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**SKILLS**

**MANAGEMENT | PERSONAL INTEGRITY | COMMUNICATION  
LEADERSHIP | ORGANIZATION | TEAM PROJECTS**

- Intermediate to advanced capabilities in Canvas, Microsoft Office, JD Edwards Software, Blackboard, Cougar Mountain
- Typing: 86+ WPM
- 25+ years classical piano – advanced sight-reading abilities
- Beginner to intermediate guitar skills (self-taught)