

Brandon de Wilder Spence

1501 Bond Street
Norfolk, Virginia 23504

(616) 240-4488
scharffiv@gmail.com

Summary of Qualifications

A skilled music professional with extensive experience in liturgical leadership, academic teaching and private instruction of musicians. Accomplished training in organ, piano, harpsichord, and carillon. Known for consistency and quality of liturgical music, versatility of music styles, successful mentoring of music students, and diversity in adaptation to several genres, performance mediums, and professional arenas.

Education

Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, IL
Institute for Liturgical Consultants
Phase I completed
University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN
Certificate, Liturgical Studies
The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
DMA, Performance
MM, Church Music, MM, Organ Performance
Old Dominion University,
BS, Organ Performance

Professional Experience

St. John the Apostle Catholic Church – Virginia Beach, VA	2016-present
Sacred Heart Catholic Parish and School – Dearborn, MI	2012-2016
Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception – Denver, CO Director of Music	2010-2012
St. John Vianney Theological Seminary - Denver, CO Lecturer (adjunct-sacred music)	2011-2012
Aquinas College - Grand Rapids, MI Instructor (adjunct-organ) Pastoral Musician (campus ministry)	2003-2010
St. Mary's Catholic Parish – Big Rapids, MI Director of Music and Ministries	2008-2010

The Cathedral of St. Andrew (Roman Catholic) - Grand Rapids, MI Director of Liturgical Music	1996-2007
West Catholic High School - Grand Rapids, MI Director of Choral Activities	1999-2006
Catholic Central High School - Grand Rapids, MI Accompanist	2003-2004
The Teaching Studio of Dr. Brandon D. Spence - Hillsdale, MI Proprietor/Private Instruction	1988-1996
St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church - Melvindale, MI Minister of Music	1989-1996
St. Mary of Redford Elementary School – Detroit, MI Music Education Instructor, Grades K-8	1990-1996
Spring Arbor University – Spring Arbor, MI Lecturer in Music	1988-1996
First United Methodist Church - Hillsdale, MI Minister of Music and the Arts	1985-1989
First United Methodist Church - Saline, MI Director of Music	1981-1985
The University of Michigan School of Music - Ann Arbor, MI Graduate Teaching Assistant (two year appointment)	1983-1985
Shippensburg University 1871 Old Main Drive - Shippensburg, PA 17257 Artist-in-Residence	1983

Associations/Additional Experience

Organ design consultant, Cathedral of St. Andrew
 Organ technician, Garrett & Associates and Campbell Pipe Organ Service
 Presenter, Symposium on African American Organ Music, University of Michigan
 Presenter, Liturgical Conference, Calvin College
 Presenter, Conference on Music, University of Michigan
 Student of Hung-Gar (kung fu) and Shorin Ryu Karate
 Faculty, Cantor Training School (Diocese of Grand Rapids)
 Contract musician, West Michigan Symphony
 Performer, Conference on Organ Music, The University of Michigan

Honors and Awards

Martin Luther King/Cesar Chavez/Rosa Parks Fellowship

E. Power Biggs Fellow

Scholastic Awards Scholarship

Hermitage Foundation Scholarship (awarded through competition performance)

Nannie Gary Blackwell Scholarship (awarded by the Scherzo Music Club)