

Curriculum Vitae **Belford Hernandez**

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EDUCATION

2002-2004

Master of Music Education

Vandercook College of Music, Chicago IL

Area: Choral/Vocal

Master Thesis: 20th Century Latin American Music Styles

1992-1996

Bachelor in Music Education

Adventist University Corporation of Colombia (South America)

Area: Choral/Piano and Music Technology

1992-1996

“Prudencio Essa” Music Conservatory, Caracas, Venezuela

Music Theory, Piano

Choral Conducting Teachers (Undergraduate, Graduate and Masterclasses)

Dr. Robert Synclair, Dr. Daniel Bara, Dr. Jerry Blackstone, Dr. Paul Rardin, Dr. Ricardo Pedroza, Dr. Robert Holst, Maria Guinand, Liliana Cangiano.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2013-present

Choral Director/ Band Director , Montini Catholic High School

Lombard, IL

Responsibilities: Direct the freshman and Sophomore Choirs, Varsity and Chamber Choir. Beginners and advanced Instrumental Ensembles.

2010-present

Cantores Community Choir, Artistic Director

Downers Grove IL.

Responsibilities: Prepare and conduct a broad diversity of traditional and new choral literature. Perform two major concerts during the year in addition to smaller concerts we perform.

2011-present

Music Director, Hinsdale United Methodist Church
Hinsdale, IL.

Responsibilities: Direct the Chancel Choir, the Handbell Choir, and coordinate the musical activities of the church for 36 weeks of the year with varied music styles. I also coordinate of The Hinsdale United Methodist Church Concert Series.

2000-2013

Choral Director of Treble Ensemble, Chamber Singers, Male Choir, and Choral Accompanist, Downers Grove South High School

Downers Grove, IL

Responsibilities: Direct the Treble Ensemble Select Choir, the Male Choral Ensemble and the Chamber Singers. Piano Collaborator for “A Capella”, Concert Choir and Freshman Choral Ensembles. Arranger and Composer for different choirs, the songs were used in several concerts throughout the years.

2000-2011

Choral Director, First United Methodist Church Chapel Choir

Downers Grove IL.

Responsibilities: Directed the 80-100 members of the Youth Choir. Prepared and conducted annual Spring Break tours in different cities across The United States and Canada.

1999-2002

Choral Accompanist and Director assistant, Downers Grove Choral Society

Downers Grove, IL

Responsibilities: Played the piano for the rehearsals and concerts. Prepared and conducted major pieces from choral literature including “Mass in C minor” by W.A. Mozart, “Requiem” by G. Faure, “Elijah” by F. Mendelssohn, “Gloria” by A. Vivaldi, and “Christmas Cantata” by D. Pinkham

1999-2001

Choral Accompanist, Anima Singers (former Glen Ellyn Children Chorus)

Responsibilities: Played the piano for rehearsals and concerts.

Glen Ellyn, IL

1998-2000

Music Director, Greenstone United Methodist Church

Chicago, IL.

Responsibilities: Played the piano and organ for their Sunday worship services and coordinated the musical activities of the church.

1995-1997

Director of Choral Activities, Catholic University Corporation “Luis Amigo”

Medellin, Colombia

Responsibilities: Directed the University Mass Choir and Chamber Singers. There were annual concerts, national tours and other miscellaneous performances.

1996-1997

Choral Director, Colombian-Venezuelan Adventist High School

Medellin, Colombia

Responsibilities: Directed the 10-12th grade mixed concert choir. There were seasonal concerts and several other smaller performances.

1995-1997

Assistant piano professor, Adventist University Corporation of Colombia

Medellin, Colombia

Responsibilities: Taught and organized the curriculum of functional piano for music educators.

1995-1997

“Amadeus” Conservatory of Music, Medellin, Colombia

Responsibilities: taught piano and trombone.

TEACHING/PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

Conductor-clinician for the 2010 Illinois Music Educator Association Conference.
Conducting the Downers Grove South Madrigal Singer.

Founder and Conductor of “In The Pursuit Of Awesomeness” Summer Choral Camp for the Chicago area High School students (2009-present)

Guest Conductor-Clinician in various local High schools and Middle Schools in the Chicago area: Lakeview Junior High, Eisenhower Middle School, Hinsdale Seventh Day Adventist Academy High School, and Jefferson Junior High.

Conductor and piano player for several musicals in the Chicago area: *Crazy for you*, *Fiddle on the Roof*, *Pajama Game*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, *The Music Man*, *How to Succeed in Business*, and *Brigadoon*.

Guest Clinician for Piano Accompaniment and MIDI orchestrations: Northern Caribbean University, Jamaica. Butler University, Indianapolis. “Amadeus” Music Conservatory, Medellin, Colombia.

Performed several piano recitals as a soloist and chamber music player in Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela and USA. Repertoire includes major works from J.S. Bach, W.A. Mozart. L. V. Beethoven. F. Mendelssohn. F. Litz, and a variety of Latin American styles.

Regular Piano Accompanist for various Illinois Music Educator Association and American Choral Directors Association conferences.

Twenty two years as piano accompanist for professional choirs and international artists, such as: Tonos Humanos, a professional choir in Colombia. The University Choir of West Indies College, Jamaica, the Vandercook School of Music Graduate Choir, Chicago, Illinois, the Glen Ellyn Children Choir, Illinois, Gilles Apap, Violin. Nicholas Kendall, Violin. Jesus Florido, Violin. Adela Pena, Violin.

Instructor and Pianist for the Mark O’Connor Fiddle Camp, San Diego, Ca. (2001, 2005):
Instructor of Latin American Music Styles.

Musical Producer and artist recording of Three CDs: “Without Words,” (2002) “A Beat of Me”(2004) And “Time of Gratitude” (2011)

French Horn player for the “La Guaira” Youth Orchestra, Venezuelan Youth Orchestra System. (1993-1994)

COMMISSIONED COMPOSITION-PUBLICATIONS

Comissioned for Andrews University Orchestra Christmas Concert (2014)
Overture for Symphony Orchestra and Jazz Trio

Commissioned for the Downers Grove South High School graduation Song (2012)
If (SATB)

Commissioned for the Lakeview Junior High School Graduation Song (2011)
Today, We Dream! (SAB)

Commissioned for a SATB Mass Work (Misa Criolla) composition for Downers Grove
Choral Society (2004-2005)

“Mi Negra”, orchestral arrangement, Alfred Publishing Co. (2006)

“Functional Piano for Music Educators” (Undergraduate Curriculum). Adventist
University Corporation of Colombia, (1995)

Choral and Instrumental Compositions publish at JWPepper/My Score

COMPOSITIONS/ARRANGEMENTS PERFORMED:

Original Compositions:

After I am Gone (SATB)

A Soldier (TTBB)

There Is Another Sky (SSATBB)

If (SATB)

Today, We Dream! (SAB)

Misa Criolla (SATB)

Where The Sidewalk Ends (SSAA)

Selected Choral Arrangements Performed:

The First Noel (SSATBB)

A La Nanita Nana (TTBB)

What Child Is This (SSATBB)

Have Yourself a Little Merry Christmas (SATB)

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen (SSATBB)

Let It Snow! Let It Snow! (SSATBB)

The Water Is Wide (SATB)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

National Association for Music Education

Illinois Music Educators Association

American Choral Directors Association