

Jordan Van Biert

Curriculum Vitae

www.jordanvanbiert.com

EDUCATION

Master of Music in Choral Conducting, University of Alberta (2007).

Bachelor of Music, The King's University College (2004).
Piano concentration. Also studied conducting, composition, voice performance/pedagogy, trumpet, organ.



POSITIONS HELD

Founder and Artistic Director – Chronos Vocal Ensemble, Edmonton

Sept. 2013 - Present. Directing 32-voice semi-professional chamber choir: Auditioning singers, programming, all conducting duties, recording production, fundraising, all principal artistic and executive duties. Healey Willan Grand Prize in National Competition for Canadian Amateur Choirs July 2015, Performance award from City of Edmonton 2016. Performances at Podium 2016 and 2018; Northwest ACDA 2020. Performances with Edmonton Symphony Orchestra. Recordings: *Presenting Chronos Vocal Ensemble* (2015), *The Simplest Way: The Music of Trent Worthington* (2016), *Fresh: New Music From Canada* (2018).

Artistic and Executive Director - Vocal Alchemy, Edmonton

Sept. 2007 - Present. Directing 100-member adult community chorus organization: programming and repertoire selection; conducting major concerts and smaller performances annually; hiring accompanists, choral assistants, vocal coaches and guest artists including orchestral ensembles; providing enrichment classes and workshops; public relations; other artistic and all executive duties including responsibility for operations and supervision of contract administrative staff.

Artistic Director – Ante Meridiem Choral Association, Edmonton

Sept. 2012 - Present. Directing a daytime community choral program for adults: conducting weekly rehearsals, two annual self-produced concerts and six community performances; hiring and supervising accompanist, assistant conductor, and section leader(s); all other artistic and some administrative duties.

Director of Music - Trinity Lutheran Church, Edmonton

2007 - 2021. Leadership of all musical activities: directing choirs in English and German; occasional leadership of children's choir, handbell choir, youth wind ensemble, and/or youth band; staff and committee meetings; recruitment and supervision of choral scholars; joint planning and execution of major sanctuary renovation.

Conductor – Concert Choir, Concordia University of Edmonton

Sept. 2018 – May 2019. Interim (sabbatical coverage for Dr. Joy Berg). Auditioning singers, repertoire selection, conducting rehearsals, four Concordia concerts and a Northern Alberta tour, prep for performances with Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, individual/group testing and grading.

Executive Director - *Singspiration*, Concordia University of Edmonton

2012 - 2017. Planning and operating annual summer choral camp: budget development, hiring and supervising 14-16 artistic and other personnel, marketing and recruitment, fundraising, liaising with campus departments, concert production.

Conductor - Edmonton Youth Choir

Sept. 2011 - June 2012. Interim leadership of Edmonton's premiere youth choir for SATB singers aged 14-25 during a year's leave for Artistic Director John Wiebe. All auditioning, programming, conducting and administrative duties, 12 performances in Edmonton and two tours (AB and SK).

Instructor of Choir - Concordia High School, Edmonton

Jul. 2009 - June 2011. Teaching choral music, music theory and music appreciation, grades 9-12. Planning, recruitment, coordination with school staff, producing performances, grading.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Seminars/Workshops led (partial/recent):

Indigenous Classical Music Gathering, Banff, co-led score-reading workshop with Timothy Shantz, 2021.

St. Francis JH choirs, Lethbridge, 2-day workshop in Edmonton, 2018.

Marion Graham Collegiate HS choirs, Saskatoon, workshops in SK and AB, 2011, 2012, 2016.

Choral Singers Unite day workshop (Ihanna/Soliloquy), Red Deer. October 2015.

Vocal Alchemy invitational Men's Workshops, Edmonton. Annually 2009-Present.

Grande Prairie Boys Choir Men of Note, "Mentoring Men" workshops, leader, 2013/2014/2015.

Inspiration for Teachers at Concordia U.C. of AB. *Introduction to Conducting* seminar. Annually 2010-2013.

Chorealis Choir, Edmonton. Day workshop, 2013.

Freelance and Guest Conducting:

Christmas Bureau Caroling – December 2019. Guest conductor for 19th-annual carol sing-along at Winspear Centre, raising funds for the Christmas Bureau of Edmonton. Invitational choir of 250 singers; guest performances by Jeremy Spurgeon (organ), Chronos Vocal Ensemble and Bok Brass.

Singspiration – August 2019. Guest conductor for Adult Summer Choir event, numbering 200+ singers from the Edmonton area.

Victoria May Sing! - May 2013, May 2011. Conductor of biannual choral projects in Victoria BC with invitational chamber choir, culminating in charity fundraiser concerts.

"Bach Project" and other project concerts in Edmonton featuring invitational choral ensembles, soloists and orchestra (producer/conductor):

Hope, Faith, Life, Love - February 2013 | Resound! - April 2012

Bach Project - May 2009 | Bach and Forth! - May 2008

Bach Singers and Players - Jan. 2007 | Bach's *Actus Tragicus* - Feb. 2006

Illuminations Choir: Producer & conductor for professional choir installations for *Illuminations* events, "a spectacle of light design, music, dance and mass movement," part of Edmonton's Winter Light festival, featuring invitational ensembles of local freelance singers.

Illuminations: Jan. 2011 | Illuminations: March 2009

Seminars, Workshops, Fellowships (participant):

Northwest American Choral Directors' Association Conference, March 2020.

Performed for delegates and public with Chronos Vocal Ensemble, featuring new Canadian repertoire.

Podium 2016 Festival and Conference, June-July 2018.

Performed for delegates and public with Chronos Vocal Ensemble, collaborative sharing workshop with Capital Chamber Choir (Ottawa) and That Choir (Toronto).

MusikPodium Stuttgart Masterclass with Frieder Bernius, July 2016

Conducted Kammerchor Stuttgart in competitive live audition, then selected in a two-stage process among a group of international conductors to rehearse, then perform, with the choir.

Podium 2016 Festival and Conference, May 2016

Performed for delegates and public with Chronos Vocal Ensemble, participated in panel discussion on the National Competition.

Toronto Mendelssohn Choir Choral Conductors' Symposium, January 2016

With the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir and Elora Festival Singers, under the direction of conductor Noel Edison.

Tafelmusik Baroque Summer Institute, Toronto, June 2006, June 2008, June 2015.

Program for conductors.

Montreal Choral Masterclass, March 2013.

Worked with Montreal choral ensembles Les Muses and voces borealis under Michael Zaugg.

Conducting Fellow with the Canadian Chamber Choir, Alberta tour, March 2011.

Under director Julia Davids, conducting CCC in rehearsal, performance, and workshops.

National Conductor's Symposium with the Vancouver Chamber Choir, February 2009.

Conducting participant; worked with VCC in rehearsal and performance under Jon Washburn.

Yale Summer School of Music Chamber Choir and Conducting Workshop, Norfolk, CT, August 2008.

Conducting fellow and singer, coached by Simon Carrington.

Professional Choral Singing (partial):

Luminous Voices, Calgary AB. November 2012-present. (Timothy Shantz, Artistic Director)

Pro Coro Canada, Edmonton. 2004-2015. Core singer; regular soloist.

(Richard Sparks, Michael Zaugg, various guest conductors)

Scona Chamber Singers, Edmonton. Four projects in 2012- 2019. (John Brough, conductor)

Canadian Chamber Choir, AB. March 2011. (Julia Davids, conductor.)

Singer & assistant conductor - see above.

Private Instructor in Music

2000-2014. Fifteen years as a private teacher primarily in piano performance and music theory.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Recipient, Exploration and Experimentation Grant, Edmonton Arts Council, 2021.

Honorable Mention, Adult Mixed Choir Category for Chronos Vocal Ensemble in the 2019 National Competition.

Performance Award, with Chronos Vocal Ensemble, City of Edmonton Salute to Excellence, 2016.

Con Spirito Award for "spirit and dedication" to choral music in Alberta, Choir Alberta, 2016.

Nominee (shortlisted), *Emerging Artist* in 2016 PACE Edmonton Mayor's Celebration of the Arts.

Healey Willan Grand Prize for Chronos Vocal Ensemble in Choral Canada's 2015 National Choral Competition.

Winner, Adult Mixed Choir Category for Chronos Vocal Ensemble in the 2015 National Competition.

Beryl Barns Award (University of Alberta Music), 2005 and 2006.

John and Logie Drew Award (University of Alberta Music), 2005.

Winner, Da Camera Singers Choral Composition Competition, Youth Category, 2003.

Jubal Award (The King's University College- Excellence in performing arts), 2002.

Robert Tegner Scholarship in Music (Piano performance), The King's University College, 2000 & 2001.

The King's University College Entrance Scholarship, 2000.