

Joshua Shepherd, DMA
3512 Roundwood Forest Dr | Antioch, TN 37013
JoshuaShepherdConductor.com | JoshuaDShepherd@gmail.com | 786-877-2801

Accomplished and inspiring conductor/educator/performer/administrator who collaborates productively with musicians from diverse backgrounds. Career includes touring Asia and Europe, recording in Miami and Nashville studios, and performing in NY Broadway pit orchestras. Passionate about education and sharing orchestral music with newcomers. Experience working with vocal and instrumental soloists, and teaching in applied lesson, classroom and ensemble settings. Converts crisis into opportunity: during the pandemic, created a new, inclusive community orchestra with Nashville musicians, which provided live orchestral music experiences for musicians and audiences alike. Cultivates relationships with local news media and concert venues. Seasoned leader of both musical and administrative tasks. Knowledgeable of performance practice and repertoire, including music from diverse composers. Skillfully balances structure and order with genuine warmth and humor during rehearsals, lessons and classes. Two-time American Prize in Conducting finalist and two-time American Prize in Orchestral Performance finalist.

Education

University of Miami, Frost School of Music 2011
Coral Gables, FL
Doctor of Musical Arts in Viola Performance
Primary Advisor: Pamela McConnell, Professor of Viola
Document Topic: “*York Bowen’s Viola Concerto: A Methodology of Study*”

University of South Florida 2004
Tampa, FL
Master of Music in Instrumental Conducting
Graduate Certificate in Viola Performance
Primary Teachers: Dr. William Wiedrich, Professor of Conducting and Kathie Aagaard,
Professor of Viola

Florida Atlantic University 2002
Boca Raton, FL
Bachelor of Music Education, (Voice, Violin and Viola)
Primary Teachers: Dr. Patricia Fleitas, Professor of Choral and Vocal Studies, Dr. Eric Thomas,
Professor of Voice and Rebecca Lautar, Professor of Violin and Viola

Conducting Teachers

Dr. William Wiedrich, Cristian Măcelaru, Octavio Más-Arocas, Dr. Donald Portnoy, Peter Jaffe, Paul Vermel, Sarah Ioannides, Mark Gibson, Aaron Kula, Scott Woodard

Current Position

The People’s Orchestra of Nashville (Nashville, TN) 2020-Present
(formerly the Nashville Reading Orchestra)
Music Director and Conductor

- *Conducts each rehearsal and performance, speaks with the audience, programs concerts, writes program notes/scripts, manages personnel and music librarian tasks, creates social media presence, writes press releases, secures donations and local news coverage of events, and*

develops relationships with the concert venues.

- *Music performed: from standard symphonic, operatic, musical theatre, ballet, and pops repertoire, and lesser known works, often featuring talented instrumental and vocal soloists.*
- *Concerts conducted: Veterans Concert (Nov. 2020), Christmas Concert (Dec. 2020), Musical Theatre/Opera Selections Concert (Feb. 2021), Beethoven Celebration Concert (June 2021), Halloween Family Concert (Oct. 2021), Veterans Concert (Nov. 2021), Hooray for Hollywood Concert (May 2022), Harvest Jamboree Concert (Oct. 2022), Best of Broadway and Opera Concert (March 2023), Halloween Family Concert (Oct. 2023), Veterans Concert (Nov 2023).*

Guest and Assistant Conducting Experience

Florida Lakes Symphony Orchestra (Winter Haven, FL) 2024

Guest Conductor

- *Guest conducted program of 'light classics'.*
- *Performance featured solo violinist and solo vocalist.*

Orchestra Kentucky (Bowling Green, KY) 2023

Assistant/Guest Conductor

- *As cover conductor: conducted second rehearsal and concert as music director became ill.*
- *Performance included two vocal soloists, adult choir, and children's choir.*

Huntsville Symphony Orchestra (Huntsville, AL) 2023-2024

Assistant Conductor

- *Assisted/covered the April 2024 Ravel/Rimsky-Korsakov concert.*
- *Assisted/covered the September 2023 Tchaikovsky/Prokofiev concert.*
- *Assisted/covered the April 2023 Brahms' German Requiem concert.*

Butler Philharmonic Orchestra (Hamilton, OH) 2022-2023

Assistant Conductor

- *Assisted/covered the 2023 Christmas Concert (conducted "White Christmas").*
- *Assisted/covered the May 2023 Season Finale Concert: Tchaikovsky Symphony #5.*
- *Assisted/covered the 2022 Christmas Concert (conducted "Jingle Bells Forever").*

Tennessee Philharmonic Orchestra (Murfreesboro, TN) 2022-2024

Assistant Conductor

- *Assisted/covered the April 2024 Season Finale Concert.*
- *Assisted/covered the 2023 Christmas Concert.*
- *Assisted/covered the April 2023 Season Finale Concert.*
- *Assisted/covered the 2022 Christmas Concert.*
- *Assisted/covered the 2022 Veterans Concert.*

Belmont University "Into the Woods" (Nashville, TN) 2022

Assistant Conductor

- *Assisted/covered the musical production.*

Union University Symphony Orchestra (Jackson, TN) 2021-2022

Assistant Conductor

- *Conducted the orchestra when music director was busy with other tasks.*

Tennessee Philharmonic Orchestra 2021

Guest Conductor

- *Conducted the ensemble's first full orchestral performance since December 2019 in a Veterans Concert to honor those that have served our nation.*

Sacramento Youth Symphony 2019

Guest Conductor

- *Conducted the 'Classic Orchestra' in selections arranged by Merle J. Isaac.*

Light Opera Theatre of Sacramento 2019

Assistant Conductor

- *Conducted excerpts with the orchestra, chorus and soloists during warm-ups before performances and conducted the 'Bows' music for each performance.*

Christ Community Church 2019

Assistant Conductor

- *Directed choir & orchestra in rehearsals and Sunday services.*

Fremont Presbyterian Church 2018-2019

Minister of Music and Worship Arts

- *Led the music in the Traditional Service, oversaw a music program including multiple vocal choirs, bell choir, orchestra and community arts program comprised of several graded bands and orchestras.*

University of South Florida 2002-2004

Graduate Assistant Conductor

- *Conducted the University Symphony Orchestra and the Recital Orchestra each semester.*

Florida Atlantic University 2002

Undergraduate Conductor

- *Served as cover conductor and led a rehearsal of Brandenburg Concerto #5. Conducted orchestra in the reading of an original orchestral arrangement at semester's end.*

Other Guest Conducting Experience

Judson Baptist Church Choir, Nashville, TN 2018

Hilldale Baptist Church Choir, Clarksville, TN 2018

Our Savior Lutheran Church Choir, Plantation, FL 2008-2011

Teaching and Lecturing Experience

Belmont University

Adjunct Music Instructor

2022

- *Taught undergraduate theory course*

- Union University** 2021-Present
Adjunct Music Instructor
- *Co-teaches a string repertoire course, teaches applied studio lessons, prepares students for recitals, coaches chamber ensemble, and assists in orchestra rehearsals as viola section leader.*
- Fremont Music Academy** 2018-2019
Minister of Music and Worship Arts
- *Oversaw church music academy comprised of congregation members and community members (ages: children through adult). Led band and orchestra rehearsals.*
- Fine Arts Summer Academy** 2015
Instructor
- *Led viola sectional rehearsals, coached chamber music groups, assisted viola section in rehearsals and performances.*
- Brentwood Baptist Church** 2011-2013
Instructor
- *Assisted Music & Worship Instrumental Minister Michael Lawrence in Young Strings & Student Orchestra rehearsals.*
 - *Taught violin and viola lessons at Brentwood Worshipping Arts Center (BWAC).*
- FL-ASTA Collier County 'Viola Day'** 2010
Lecturer
- *Gave lecture on the works written for viola by composer York Bowen.*
- University of Miami Young Musician's Camp** 2009-2012
Instructor
- *Taught courses in conducting, chamber music, orchestral literature, vocal technique, music theory and string technique to middle and high school students.*
- Greater Miami Youth Symphony Summer Music Camp** 2009
Instructor
- *Taught courses in chamber music and viola ensemble to middle and high school students from beginner to advanced level of study.*
- Luzerne Music Center Summer Music Camp** 2007
Instructor
- *Taught violin and viola individual private lessons and coached chamber groups.*
- Private Teaching (Orlando, Fort Lauderdale, Miami and Nashville)** 2004-Present
Instructor
- *Taught individual private lessons to students of all ages and levels.*
- University of South Florida** 2002-2004
Tutor and Graduate Student Assistant
- *Tutored individual undergraduate students in the fundamentals of music theory.*
 - *Taught music theory concepts to undergraduate theory class as part of the Teaching of Music Theory course.*

Performance Experience

Orchestral

Section Violin, Murfreesboro Symphony Orchestra, 2011-2018; Symphony of the Americas, 2010-2011
Section Viola, Light Opera Theatre of Sacramento, 2019; Tennessee Philharmonic 2018-Present;
Symphony of the Americas, 2008-2009; Miami City Ballet, 2006-2007; Central Florida Symphony
Orchestra, 2003-2006; Opera Tampa, 2003-2004; Punta Gorda Symphony, 2002-2004, Venice
Symphony, 2002-2004

Section Viola/Violin, Nashville Praise Symphony, 2011-Present; Paducah Symphony Orchestra, 2011-
Present; Klezmer Company Orchestra, 2010-2018; Florida Lakes Symphony Orchestra, 2006-2008;
Ohio Light Opera, 2006; Craig Turley Orchestras, 2004-2008

Section Violin and Viola Substitute, Bryan Symphony 2023; Jackson Symphony 2021-Present; Shoals
Symphony Orchestra, 2014-Present; Huntsville Symphony Orchestra, 2011-Present; Chattanooga
Symphony Orchestra, 2011-Present; Owensboro Symphony, 2018-Present; Orchestra Kentucky, 2011-
Present; Palm Beach Pops, 2009-2011 & 2004-2006; Miami Symphony, 2008-2011; Symphony of the
Americas, 2006-08; Palm Beach Opera, 2004-2006; Ars Flores Symphony Orchestra, 2004-2006

Chamber Music Performance

Viola, Luzerne Music Center Faculty Concerts (2007):

Dvořák “American” String Quartet & Brahms String Sextet No. 2 in G Major

Viola, University of Miami Trio with Guest Artist Mark O’Connor (2010):

O’Connor “Appalachia Waltz” and “Caprice for Three”

Broadway Pit Orchestra Experience

Viola, Monty Python’s Spamalot (Summer 2005; Schubert Theatre, NY)

Viola, Phantom of the Opera (Summer 2005; Majestic Theatre, NY)

Tours

Section Viola, **Mantovani Orchestra China Tours**

2007, 2009, 2012 & 2014

Section Viola, **Anne Murray Southeast US Tour**

2008; FL, GA & SC

Section Viola/Violin, **Mantovani Orchestra U.S. Christmas Tours**

2005, 2007 & 2009

Baritone, **Florida Atlantic University Chamber Singers European Tour**

2000; Prague & Austria

Performances with Artists

Rod Stewart, Aretha Franklin, Kenny Rogers, Johnny Mathis, Donna Summer, Steve and Eydie,
Mariah Carey, Irish Tenors, Mannheim Steamroller, Robert Goulet, Shirley Jones, Bebe Neuwirth,
Bernadette Peters, Queensryche, Dennis DeYoung of Styx, Bob McGrath, TransSiberian Orchestra,
Alan Parsons Project, Anne Murray, Michael W. Smith, Steve Green, Larnelle Harris, Sandi Patty.

Recording Experience

- Played viola on the concert video recording for David Phelps’ “Stories & Songs Volume 2”.
- Played viola on the soundtrack for the ESPN series “30 for 30” episode “The U.”
- Played violin for “Larnelle: Live in Nashville” live concert recording in 2013.

- Played violin solos for David Hamilton Word Music project “*The Story.*”
- Played violin/viola on Playstation soundtracks & David Clydesdale 2012 projects.
- Sang in choir for Steve Green's 2012 album, “*Rest in the Wonder.*”

Workshops Attended

International Conductors Guild/Fort Wayne Philharmonic Conductor Workshop	2023
CCM Opera Bootcamp at University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory	2021
Cortona Sessions for New Music Virtual Summit	2020
Cascade Conducting Online Seminar	2020
Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music	2019
Conductor's Institute at the University of South Carolina	2018

Membership

International Conductors Guild
League of American Orchestras

Honors

Finalist: The American Prize in Conducting-community orchestra division, 2022 and 2023
Finalist: The American Prize in Orchestral Performance-community orchestra division, 2022 and 2023