

LORI BRENNA

PO Box 284
Hebo, Oregon 97122
646-452-9963

email: music@brenna.com
web: www.brenna.com

OBJECTIVE

A position as a music and theatre director.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Hunter College CUNY, New York, NY

Teaching Assistant, studio accompanist – Jazz Vocal Ensemble **2008-2013**

Served as studio assistant to Professor Priscilla Owens, and in-class accompanist, led class in vocal warm-ups, coached individual singers, chose appropriate keys for singers' individual material, transposed at sight, and prepared charts for band. Performed with vocal ensemble and instrumentalists at Crossover performances during the semester, and at final semester performances in the Lang Auditorium.

Hunter College CUNY, New York, NY

Musical Theatre Audition Workshop **2010**

Developed curriculum for a two hour workshop featuring basic audition skills for non-singing actors, and classically trained vocalists unfamiliar with the musical theatre repertoire. Assisted students with choosing a song for upcoming auditions for The Threepenny Opera and communicating with an accompanist.

Hunter College CUNY, New York, NY

Teaching Assistant, class accompanist – Chamber Singers **2008-2009**

Served as teaching assistant to Professor Paul Mueller, and in-class accompanist, led sectionals with soprano and alto sections. Performed with vocal ensemble and additional instrumentalists at final semester performances in the Lang Auditorium.

US Performing Arts Camps, Amherst, MA

Music Director, Musical Theatre; Director, Voice for the Musical Theatre **2008**

Developed curriculum for two two-week sessions focusing on musical theatre vocal performance, repertoire, audition skills, theory and technique. Directed and accompanied performance classes of 15 to 60 college-bound students.

Jesuit High School

Substitute Choir Instructor **2001**

Substituted for Choir Instructor, following lesson plans, rehearsing all-school choir, and a capella choir.

Brenna Sage Studio, Portland, OR and New York, NY

Private piano and voice instructor **1992-2000, 2006-2014**

Began teaching six students in their homes in 1992, and by 1994 had developed a studio of 30 students ages five to adult in a professional space in Portland. Held two recitals per year for families of young students, always encouraging other performance opportunities and ensemble playing. Also coached singers privately for auditions and competitions on a free-lance basis. In 1997, created a customized curriculum for a college student from Switzerland who traveled to Portland to study intensively with me for eight weeks. I maintained a small roster of piano and vocal students in New York City until 2014, when I returned to Oregon.

DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

Temple Civic Theatre, Temple, Texas

Music Director, How To Eat Like a Child **2014**

Directed a cast of 10 children ages 8 through 14 for a spring break camp. The show was learned, rehearsed, and staged in five days, with one performance on Saturday, March 16, 2014.

New York Musical Theatre Festival

Orchestrator and Music Director, The Pirates of Finance **2013**

Orchestrating Arthur Sullivan music for four musicians, creating arrangements and making stylistic adaptations to score, accompanist auditions, making casting decisions with the director and playwright, rehearse and coach singers and actors, play and conduct full length production at The Alice Griffin Jewel Box Theatre, at The Pershing Square Signature Center – July 15-20, 2013

New York International Theatre Festival, Saving Grace Productions

Music Director, Trouble, a new Pop/Rock Musical **2011**

Accompanied auditions, made casting decisions with the director and playwright, rehearsed and coached singers and actors for full length production at June Havoc Theatre.

Shakespeare Society/Hunt's Point Alliance for Children

Music Director, Twelfth Night **2010-2011**

Taught choral group of 4th through 6th graders one afternoon a week. Selected material for production, arranged music for young singers, as well as a four piece instrumental ensemble for two performances.

Hunter College CUNY, New York, NY

Associate Music Director, The Threepenny Opera **2010**

Assisted Music Director with vocal coaching of principals. Recruited instrumentalists, rehearsed orchestra, programmed keyboards. Designed and led audition workshop prior to auditions.

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Middle Village, NY

Minister of Music **2012-2014**

Directed and accompanied choir, served as cantor for services without choir, taught music to Sunday School class. Music directed two theatrical productions for the Sunday School Christmas Pageant. Played pipe organ and piano for Sunday and seasonal services.

First Reformed Church of Astoria, Astoria, NY

Director of Music **2006-2012**

Directed Senior Choir, re-established Men's and Children's Choirs. Led the drama group, and taught theatre sessions at Vacation Bible School (Summers 2008-2009). Assisted pastor in selecting hymns that support readings and seasonal themes. Played piano and/or pipe organ for Sunday and special seasonal services.

St. Bart's Players, New York, NY

Music Director, 1776 **2007**

Accompanied auditions, collaborated with director in making casting decisions. Taught music to ensemble, leads, and accompanied all musical and staging rehearsals. Contracted, rehearsed, and conducted orchestra for rehearsals and shows.

Hoboken High School, Hoboken, NJ

Music Director, The Wiz **2007**

<i>Bell Theatre Company (Middle School), Chappaqua, NY</i>	
Music Director, Bye Bye Birdie	2007
Music Director, The King and I	2006
<i>Gallery Players, Brooklyn, NY (Off-Off-Broadway)</i>	
Music Director, Composer, Sound Design, Torch Song Trilogy	2007
Music Director, Urinetown – Won NYC Innovative Theatre award for Best Musical	2006
Music Director, Chess	2003
Music Director, Don't Call Us	2003
<i>Richmond Hill Drama Club, Richmond Hill, NY</i>	
Music Director, How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying	2005
<i>St. Peter's College, Jersey City, NJ</i>	
Music Director, The Wiz	2005
<i>Group Theatre Too (In Residence at PS 75) New York, NY</i>	
Music Director, How to Eat Like A Child	2005
<i>Turtle Shell Productions, New York, NY (Off-Off-Broadway)</i>	
Music Director, co-composer, PUCK'd (punk rock adaptation of Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream")	2004
<i>Young People's Theatre Project, Portland, OR</i>	
Recorded orchestrations, Peter Pan	2010
Recorded orchestrations, The Wiz	2007
Recorded orchestrations, Cats	2006
Music Director, recorded orchestrations, The Secret Garden	2004
Music Director, recorded orchestrations, Pirates of Penzance	2003
Music Director, recorded orchestrations, Once On This Island	2002
Music Director, recorded orchestrations, Peace Child 2000	2001
Music Director, recorded orchestrations, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat	2000
<i>American Girl Place, New York, NY (Off-Broadway)</i>	
Assistant Music Director, American Girls Revue	2003
<i>Broadhollow Theatre Company Theatre for Teens, East Islip, NY</i>	
Music Director, Smile!	2002
Music Director, West Side Story	2002
<i>Jesuit High School, Portland, OR</i>	
Music Director, Peter Pan	2002
Music Director, West Side Story	2001
Music Director, Into The Woods	2000
<i>Sylvia's Class Act, Portland, OR</i>	
Recorded orchestrations, Nunsense	2002
Music Director, recorded orchestrations, Enter The Guardsman	2001
Music Director, recorded orchestrations, You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown	2000
Music Director, recorded orchestrations, Little Shop of Horrors	1999
Music Director, Nunsense II	1993
<i>Lakewood Community Theatre, Lake Oswego, OR</i>	
Music Director, The Fantasticks	1999
Music Director, Brigadoon	1999

Pianist/Conductor, Beehive!
Music Director, Oliver!

1998
1994

ACCOMPANYING/KEYBOARDIST EXPERIENCE

St. Alban's Episcopal Church, Tillamook, Oregon – Currently the organist for Sunday and special seasonal worship services.

Lincoln Pops Orchestra, Gleneden Beach, Oregon – Currently pianist for this 21-piece big band, playing music of the swing era, popular standards and latin repertoire.

Enlightened Theatrics, Salem, Oregon – Keyboard 2 for production of Jason Robert Brown's "Songs For A New World" - January-February, 2015.

Midway Messiah, Pacific City, Oregon – Rehearsal accompanist and organist for presentation of Handel's Messiah in December, 2014.

AWARDS

Student Activities Fund Performing Arts Grant award received to fund performance of original one-woman show "Hebomia! Will the real Brenna please stand up?" Produced at the Ida K. Lang Auditorium April 9, 2010 and Don't Tell Mama (New York, NY) April 11, 2010.

Accompanist Scholarships awarded by Hunter College Music Department Spring, 2008; Fall, 2008; Spring 2009; and Fall, 2009 semesters.

EDUCATION

City University of New York, Hunter College, New York, NY – August, 2007 through December, 2009 - B.A. Music, Theatre minor. Accompanist and teaching assistant for Vocal Jazz Workshop and Chamber Singers. President of Hunter College Jazz Society, vocal soloist with Jazz Vocal Workshop Ensemble, and Performance Class for Singers and pianist in Jazz Ensemble and Chamber Ensemble. Studied acting and play writing, modern French civilization and intensive French language in Compiègne, France, August, 2009.

Lewis and Clark College, Portland, Oregon – September, 1979 through May, 1982 – Music major. Studied piano, clarinet, voice, conducting, acting and dance. Performed as a vocalist and multi-instrumentalist with The Venerable Showers of Beauty Javanese Gamelan, pianist in the Jazz Ensemble, played clarinet in the wind ensemble, and was sound technician or musician for several theatrical productions.

Private Study:

Voice - Signe Lusk, Priscilla Owens, Christie Harrington
Classical piano - Ann Schaffert-Miller, Geoffrey Burleson
Jazz piano - George Mitchell, Clifford Carter

Musical Instruments: Piano, synthesizer (Roland, Yamaha, Kurzweil, RealMusic, Alesis), pipe organ, alto sax, drums, percussion.

Software: Sibelius notation software, Cakewalk Sonar Producer, Adobe Audition.