

Benjamin South, ABD, Cert. in Vocology

Florida Southern College
Department of Theatre & Dance
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EDUCATION

University of Colorado Boulder Doctor of Musical Arts in Voice Performance and Pedagogy <i>Dissertation:</i> "Aesthetic Language & Repertoire Trends in Contemporary Musical Theatre Casting Calls"	Dec. 2026 (ant.)
New York University Vocology Certificate	Aug. 2025
Ohio University Master of Music in Voice Performance and Pedagogy <i>Thesis:</i> "Exploring Estill Voice Training as a Pedagogical Tool for Cross-Training Classical Singers"	May 2024
University of North Alabama - Cole Honors College Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance - <i>summa cum laude</i>	May 2022

CERTIFICATIONS & INTERNSHIPS

National Association of Teachers of Singing Intern Program — Conroy Cupido, D.M.A., mentor teacher	May 2026
Estill Voice International Estill Figure Proficiency	May 2025
Ohio University & University of Colorado Boulder Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) Certification	Aug. 2024, 2025

UNIVERSITY TEACHING

Assistant Professor of Musical Theatre - tenure-track Aug. 2026 - Present
Florida Southern College — Department of Theatre & Dance (Lakeland, FL)

Instructional Responsibilities:

Course: THE 1232/2232/3232/4232 — Applied Voice

- Teach applied voice to undergraduate students (BFA Musical Theatre & BFA Theatre majors).

Course: THE 3120 — Scene Study

- Assign scenes to students from the musical theatre repertory.
- Guide students through character analysis, scene analysis, and dramatic through-line.

Course: THE 4199 — Senior Performance Project

- Mentor & prepare students for the cumulative performance project of their degree program.

Directing & Collaborative Responsibilities:

- Serve as music director, piano-conductor, and rehearsal pianist for one or more musical productions per academic year.

Graduate Teaching Assistant in Vocal Pedagogy

Aug. 2024 - May 2026

University of Colorado Boulder — College of Music (Boulder, CO)

Instructional Responsibilities:

Course: PMUS 1726/2726/5726 – Applied Voice Lessons

- Teach applied voice to undergraduate and graduate students (BA, BFA, and MMEd majors).

Course: MUEL 1184 – Voice Class

- Involves basic vocal technique and easy solo repertoire taught through a group medium, for beginner and intermediate level students.
- Adapted course to include cross-training, functional training, and Estill Voice Training.

Teaching Assistant Responsibilities:

- MUSC 1544: Italian Diction
- MUSC 3444: Undergraduate Vocal Pedagogy
- MUSC 5444: Graduate Vocal Pedagogy
- MUSC 5454: Repertoire for the Teaching Studio
- MUSC 5484: Graduate Practicum in Vocal Pedagogy

Research Responsibilities:

- Assist the Director of Vocal Pedagogy in assigned research projects and publications.

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Aug. 2022 - May 2024

Ohio University — School of Music (Athens, Ohio)

Instructional Responsibilities:

Course: MUS 3400: Undergraduate Applied Voice

- Teach applied voice to undergraduate and graduate students (BA, BMEd, and non-majors).
- Teach supplementary foundational performance course for first-year voice majors.

Course: MUS 1471: Class Voice (Non-Majors)

- Involves basic vocal technique and easy solo repertoire taught through a group medium, for beginner and intermediate level students.

GUEST TEACHING

University of Maryland College Park

April 2026

MUSC 126, English Diction

“Strategies for Amplified Singing”

University of Maryland College Park

Oct. 2025

MUSC 800V, Advanced Seminar in Voice Pedagogy

“Acoustic Registration Applications for Musical Theatre Singing”

Renova New Music Ensemble

Sept. 2025

“Strategies for Sustainable Choral Singing” — Alice Del Simone, co-presenter

University of Colorado Boulder April 2025
MUSC 3193, Undergraduate Voice Pedagogy
“Many Paths, Which to Take: Teaching Your First Voice Lesson”

University of Colorado Boulder April 2025
MUSC 3193, Undergraduate Voice Pedagogy
“Extreme Voice Effects & Character Voice with Estill Voice Training.”

OTHER TEACHING

Independent Voice Teacher & Coach Aug. 2019 - Present
South Voice Studio (Virtual & In-Person)

- Teach singers in classical, pop, jazz, rock, musical theatre, and other contemporary styles with specialization in crossover pedagogy & musical theatre.
- Manage & teach a small, in-person studio and a large, online studio throughout the country.
- Coach clients in lyric diction for Italian, German, French, and English.
- Coach clients in appropriate stylistic choices, especially musical theatre and contemporary genres, while selecting repertoire appropriate for auditions and building their “book.”

Teaching & Touring Artist Sept. 2024 - Jan. 2026
Central City Opera (Central City, CO)
Responsibilities:

- Perform in their outreach performances of *CHIAROSCURO* at schools in the Denver area.
- Offer masterclass and lectures at schools and various venues in the Denver area.
- Serve as a representative of Central City Opera at conferences.

Music Direction Faculty May 2025 - Aug. 2025
French Woods Festival for the Performing Arts (Hancock, NY)
Responsibilities:

- Serve as piano-conductor, conductor, music director, and assistant music director for shows.
- Play for dance rehearsals, staging rehearsals, and orchestral pits.
- Co-teach and accompany musical theatre audition class or vocal repertoire class.
- Rewrite orchestral parts to accommodate available instrumentation, as needed.
- Coach vocalists for orchestral side-by-side concerts.

Teaching Artist Aug. 2023 - Dec. 2023
Ohio University Opera Outreach—Schoolhouse Opera
Responsibilities:

- Educate elementary and middle school students about opera and classical music.
- Advocate for opera education in the curriculum of public school education.
- Perform for over ten different elementary and middle schools in Southeastern Ohio.

Voice & Musical Theatre Fellow Summer 2022
Lutheran Summer Music Academy & Festival (Valparaiso, IN)
Responsibilities:

- Teach applied voice and coach high-school age singers in musical theatre & classical voice.
- Serve as collaborative pianist for musical theatre elective class

- Write arrangements of musical theatre “mash-ups” for piano quintet & ensemble.
- Serve as collaborative pianist for faculty performances (musical theatre & CCM styles).

RESEARCH, PUBLICATIONS, & CONFERENCES

Co-Investigator Study in-progress

University of Colorado Boulder, Berton Coffin Voice Lab

“Velopharygeal Opening Variability in Musical Theatre Treble Voices”

Nicholas Perna, Alice Del Simone, Ian Howell, Joshua Glasner, Whitney Robinson

Moderator April 2026

Conference for World Affairs, University of Colorado Boulder

“Pop Girlies are Singing What Gen Z is Feeling”

Poster Presenter July 2026

National Association of Teachers of Singing, San Antonio National Conference

“Aesthetic Language & Repertoire Trends in Contemporary Musical Theatre Casting Calls”

CREATIVE ACTIVITY

OPERA & MUSICAL THEATRE

Preacher	<i>Faith: A Folk Opera</i>	TBD in New York City	2026
Preacher	<i>Faith: A Folk Opera</i>	Kindling Arts Festival (Nashville, TN)	2026
Preacher	<i>Faith: A Folk Opera</i>	Whole Back Stage Theatre	2026
Preacher	<i>Faith: A Folk Opera</i> (premiere)	Tennessee Valley Arts Association	2026
King Kaspar	<i>Amahl and the Night Visitors</i>	Music On Site, Inc.	2025
Father Grenville (c)	<i>Dead Man Walking</i>	CU Boulder Eklund Opera	2025
Motorcycle Cop	<i>Dead Man Walking</i>	CU Boulder Eklund Opera	2025
Solo Inmate/Chorus	<i>Dead Man Walking</i>	CU Boulder Eklund Opera	2025
Nemorino/Werther	<i>CHIAROSCURO</i>	Central City Opera	2025
King Kaspar (s/c)	<i>Amahl and the Night Visitors</i>	Central City Opera	2024
Chorus	<i>Amahl and the Night Visitors</i>	Central City Opera	2024
Teague	<i>Cold Mountain</i>	Seagle Festival	2024
Charlie	<i>Brigadoon</i>	Seagle Festival	2024
Ensemble	<i>Sweeney Todd</i>	Seagle Festival	2024
Edgardo	<i>Lucia di Lammermoor</i> (scene)	Seagle Festival	2024
Sam Polk	<i>Susannah</i>	Harrower Summer Opera	2024
Anatole	<i>The Flower Cries Blue</i> (premiere)	Ohio University	2024
Prince Charmant	<i>Cinderella</i> (Viardot)	Ohio University	2024
2 nd Trio Member	<i>Trouble in Tahiti</i>	Ohio University	2024
Willie	<i>Figatroll & the Three Goats Gruff</i>	Ohio University Outreach	2023
Almaviva	<i>Il Barbiere di Siviglia</i> (scene)	Ohio University	2023
Candide	<i>Candide</i> (scene)	Ohio University	2023
Birdlace	<i>Dogfight</i>	Red River Lyric Opera	2023
Mad Hatter (c)	<i>Alice</i> (Scurria)	Red River Lyric Opera	2023
Laurie	<i>Little Women</i> (Adamo)	Ohio University	2023
Nemorino	<i>The Elixir of Love</i>	Uni. of North Alabama	2022

T-Boy	<i>The Silver Fox</i>	Uni. of North Alabama	2021
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CONCERT & RECITAL

Jewish Voices — <i>A Young Man's Exhortation</i>	College Church (Lancaster, MA)	2027
Faculty Recital: Strategies for Amplified Singing	Florida Southern College	2026
<i>Confessions and Other Lyrics</i> (American premiere)	NATS National Conference	2026
<i>El Mesías</i> (Handel's Messiah in Spanish)	St. Aidan's Episcopal Ch. (CO)	2026
<i>Dichterliebe & Craigslistlieder</i>	University of Colorado Boulder	2026
<i>Die schöne Müllerin</i>	University of Colorado Boulder	2026
<i>Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 61</i>	St. Aidan's Episcopal Ch. (CO)	2025
<i>Letters from Composers & Ten Blake Songs</i>	University of Colorado Boulder	2025
<i>Songs for Digital Natives</i>	University of Colorado Boulder	2025
A Song for Every Heart	Central City Opera	2025
<i>Die schöne Müllerin</i>	University of Colorado Boulder	2025
College Church Concert Series: Songs of Melanie Bonis	College Church (Lancaster, MA)	2024
Sondheim Cabaret	Ohio University	2024
M.M. Recital: Queer Voices	Ohio University	2024
M.M. Recital: Ilana J. Cady, collaborative piano	Ohio University	2024
<i>Messiah</i>	Ch. of the Good Shepherd (OH)	2023
Faculty & Alumni Recital: <i>Songs of Jake Heggie</i>	Uni. of North Alabama	2023
<i>Requiem</i> , W.A. Mozart	Ohio University Symphony	2023
<i>Cantata 1</i> , J.S. Bach	Ch. of the Good Shepherd (OH)	2023
<i>Cantata 172</i> , J.S. Bach	Lutheran Summer Music Festival	2022
<i>The Chariot Jubilee</i> , Nathaniel Dett	Shoals Symphony	2021
<i>Magnificat</i> , J.S. Bach	Shoals Symphony	2019
<i>My heart is inditing</i> , G.F. Handel	Shoals Symphony	2019
<i>Cantata 147</i> , J.S. Bach	Shoals Symphony	2018

MUSIC DIRECTION & COLLABORATIVE PIANO

Music Director	<i>TBD</i>	Florida Southern College	2027
Music Director	<i>TBD</i>	Florida Southern College	2026
Collab. Pianist	Songs of Ilse Weber (Allie Brault)	Music on Site, Inc.	2025
Music Director	<i>Oklahoma!</i>	French Woods Festival	2025
MD/Piano-Cond.	<i>High School Musical</i>	French Woods Festival	2025
Guitar Synth.	<i>Pirate Queen</i>	French Woods Festival	2025
Music Director	<i>Dare to Dream</i>	French Woods Festival	2025
MD/Keyboard 1	<i>The Drowsy Chaperone</i>	French Woods Festival	2025
AMD/Keyboard 2	<i>Waitress</i> (Amateur World Premiere)	French Woods Festival	2025
MD/Piano-Cond.	<i>The Wizard of Oz (RSC Version)</i>	French Woods Festival	2025
AMD/Assoc. Cond.	<i>Hadestown: Teen Edition</i>	French Woods Festival	2025
MD/Piano-Cond.	<i>The Prom</i>	French Woods Festival	2025
AMD/Keyboard 2	<i>The Sound of Music</i>	French Woods Festival	2025
Music Director	<i>13 the Musical</i>	Centerstage Theatre (CO)	2025
Callback Pianist	<i>Across the Stars</i>	Ohio University Lab Theatre	2023
Music Director	<i>Carousel</i> (scene)	Ohio University	2023
Music Director	<i>The Boys from Syracuse</i> (scene)	Ohio University	2023
Music Director	<i>Kiss Me Kate</i> (scene)	Ohio University	2023
Asst. Conductor	<i>The Silver Fox</i>	Uni. of North Alabama	2021
Asst. Conductor	<i>The Light in the Piazza</i>	Uni. of North Alabama	2020

Asst. Conductor	<i>The Turn of the Screw</i>	Uni. of North Alabama	2019
Asst. Music Director	<i>Little Shop of Horrors</i>	Uni. of North Alabama	2019

DANCE

Featured Dancer	<i>CHIAROSCURO</i>	Central City Opera	2025
Featured Dancer	<i>Amahl and the Night Visitors</i>	Central City Opera	2024
Dance Captain	<i>Dogfight</i>	Red River Lyric Opera	2023
Dance Captain	<i>Alice: An Operatic Wonderland</i>	Red River Lyric Opera	2023

SELECTED MEDIA APPEARANCES

Toi Toi Topsy 2023 - Present

Founding Co-Host & Producing Director

Three Seasons & counting — Over 2,100 cross-platform downloads

- S1E14: “Explicit Advice” with **Dane Suarez & Hilary Ginther**
- S2E6: “Everything’s Coming Up Perna!” with **Dr. Nicholas Perna**
- S2E14: “Is there a doctor on this plane?” with **Dr. Maeve Berry**
- S2E15: “Doomscrollin’ 4 Dummies” with **Alejandra Sandoval**
- S2E16: “Unity, Variety & Balance” with **Dr. Gretchen Windt & Meghan Raney**
- S2E17: “Just a Bunch of Mutts!” with **Danny Belcher**
- S2E19: “Thank you, that’ll be all.” with **Alison Moritz & Matthew Chellis**
- S3E2: “The Mother of Us All” with **Jordan Weatherston Pitts**
- S3E4: “Toi Toi Grumpy” with **Tom Cipullo**
- S3E6: “An Extraordinary Life” with **Irina & Lucas Meachem**
- S3E15: “An Accidental Composer” with **Lori Laitman**
- S3E19: TBD with **Clay Hilley**

Vocal Fri Podcast 2024 - 2026

Guest Co-Host

- “Whole Hearted Voice Pedagogy” with **David Sisco**
- “Kerrie Obert: Strategic Breathing” with **Kerrie Obert**
- “New Nasality Nuisances”
- “Chronically Singing” with **Marita Stryker & Joanne Bozeman**
- “Distortions” with **Toni Linke**

PERFORMANCE TRAINING

Seagle Festival 2024
Emerging Artist Program

Harrower Summer Opera 2024
Young Artist Program

Red River Lyric Opera 2023
Young Artist Program

OTHER TRAINING

Estill Voice Training Levels One & Two Leon Trayman	2025
Estill Voice Training Levels One & Two Tom Burke & Joanne Lott	2023
Community Engaged Scholars Training Ohio University	2023
Choral Conducting Intensive West Chester University	2019
Summer Conducting Intensive Louisiana State University	2018

STUDENT SUCCESSES

Nina Blair

- Penelope Pennywise in *Urinetown the Musical* (Santa Ana College: Santa Ana, CA, 2026)
- Mrs. Wormwood in *Mathilda the Musical* (Top Hat 8 Repertory: Tustin, CA, 2025)

Siena Taylor

- Beth in *John Proctor is the Villain* (CU Boulder, 2026)

Sam Stitt

- Trent in *The Prom* (CU Boulder, 2026)

Avery Lichty

- Maria/Lisa in *Mr. Burns: A Post-Electric Play* (CU Boulder, 2026)
- Featured ensemble in *Something Rotten* (CU Boulder, 2025)

Bianca Patten

- Featured ensemble in *The Prom* (CU Boulder, 2026)
- Featured ensemble in *Something Rotten* (CU Boulder, 2026)

AWARDS, GRANTS & COMPETITIONS

Graduate Achievement Award in Scholarship , Ohio University School of Music	2024
3rd Place in Classical , Ohio NATS	2023
National Semifinalist , National NATS	2023
3rd Place in Classical , Great Lakes Region NATS	2023
1st Place in Classical , Alabama NATS	2022
Promising Alumni Award , University of North Alabama	2022
Academic Achievement in Music , University of North Alabama	2022
Outstanding Senior in Fine & Performing Arts , University of North Alabama	2022
Experiential Educational Grant , University of North Alabama	2022
1st Place in Classical , Alabama NATS	2021
4th Place in Musical Theatre , Alabama NATS	2021

SERVICE, OUTREACH & ADJUDICATION

BLOOMSBURY PUBLISHING

Peer Reviewer 2026
 Johnson, Ellen — Book Proposal: *Healing, Harmony, and the Voice: How Singing Transforms Lives*

LONGMONT CHORALE

Judge 2025
 Youth Vocal Competition

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS OF SINGING

Adjudicator 2026
 Mid-Atlantic Regional NATS

Adjudicator 2026, 2025
 Colorado & Wyoming District NATS

OHIO UNIVERSITY

Senior Capstone Mentor 2024
 Nina Blair, B.F.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies

Non-Degree Recital Mentor 2024
 Katie Hartman, B.M. in Choral Music Education

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Member	Musical Theatre Educators' Alliance	2025 - Present
Member	National Association of Teachers of Singing	2024 - Present
Member	Pan-American Vocology Association	2023 - Present
Member	Estill Voice International	2023 - Present
Board Member	OperaJunction	2023 - Present
Inductee	Pi Kappa Lambda	2022 - Present

REFERENCES

Nicholas Perna, D.M.A., PAVA-RV

Associate Professor of Voice, Director of Vocal Pedagogy
 University of Colorado Boulder
 nicholas.perna@colorado.edu — (303) 735-3714

Alice Del Simone, D.M.A.

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 University of Richmond
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Christianne Roll, Ed.D.C.T.

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