

NATALIE STEPANIAK

Violist | Scholar | Arts Administrator

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Musical Arts

Minor in Arts Administration

Louisiana State University

August 2024

Masters of Music Performance

Bowling Green State University

May 2021

Graduate Certificate

University of Northern Colorado

May 2019

Bachelors of Music Performance

University of Northern Colorado

May 2028

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Artist

Kids' Orchestra Baton Rouge, LA

Jan 2024 - Present

- Nonprofit bringing music education to the greater Southeastern Louisiana area
- Taught group strings to a range of beginners to intermediate students
- Taught individual lessons

Detroit Symphony Civic Youth Ensemble Mentor

Detroit Symphony, Detroit, MI

Oct 2020 – Apr 2021

- The Civic Youth Ensembles are a youth arts program associated with the Detroit Symphony
- Assisted students by leading sectionals, assisted with musician part assignments, worked directly with ensemble directors
- Provided a monthly stipend and the opportunity to gain valuable hands-on experience in teaching

Strings Instructor

Crescendo Fine Arts Academy Longmont, CO

Aug 2018 – Jun 2019

- Director, Devon Newburn
- Nonprofit organization that brings arts education to underprivileged students and members of the community
- Taught group string classes, which included violin, viola, and cello students
- Taught individual private lessons

Strings Technique Tutor

UNCO, Greeley, CO

Aug 2018 – May 2019

- Tutor for Strings Technique classes at the University of Northern Colorado
- Instructor, Dr. Lindsay Fulcher
- Clinician for advanced orchestra violas at Leshar Middle School's Orchestra Field Trip

Private Viola and Violin Studio

Greeley, CO

Aug 2014 - May 2019

- Taught private lessons to community members and students of Northern Colorado of all ages and skill level
- Developed an extended technique method for young beginners
- Based in Suzuki methods

ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

Symphony Production Assistant

Lakeside Chataqua Symphony Orchestra, OH

2023 Season – Present

- Coordinated Music Director and Conductor with Director of Entertainment and Arts
- Created stage plots for orchestra concerts and rehearsals
- Managed orchestra musicians and resources
- Lead the stage team with rehearsal and concert set up

Social Media Coordinator

Louisiana State University Symphony Orchestra

2022-2024

- Managed social media handle through Instagram
- Utilized photography skills to great effect

Graduate Assistant

Louisiana State University, School of Music

2021-2024

- Planned, coordinated, and ran the annual community event ViolaLA!
- Assisted in day-to-day viola studio teaching and resources
- Organized and advised undergraduate students

Social Media Coordinator

Mid-American Center for Contemporary Music

2019-2021

- Managed YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram for the New Music Festival
- Synchronized efforts for streaming concerts during the pandemic

Graduate Event Publications Assistant

Bowling Green State University, College of Musical Arts

2019-2021

- Created the Kobacker and Bryan Virtual Concert series during the pandemic
- Received the Deans Service Award for concert series
- Extensive experience using Adobe Suite and Cloud; published event programs through Adobe InDesign
- Managed departmental and university website with Adobe Experience Manager
- Managed social media handle for College of Musical Arts, Instagram and Facebook

Artist Liaison

Sonic Harvest, CO

2017-2019

- Coordinated with governing council and resident artists for programming, resource allocation, and hiring
- Premiered works of local and student composers of the Northern Colorado region

PROJECTS

Interdisciplinary Arts Collaboration

March 17, 2024

Collaborator, Baton Rouge Gallery – Center for Contemporary Art

I collaborated with Baton Rouge Gallery – Center for Contemporary Art to curate viola works composed within the last 10 years, integrating them with visual art exhibitions. Following the model of composer and museum collaborative projects, such as those between The Noguchi Museum and Leilehua Lanzilotti, I analyzed the results through an ethnographic lens. This collaboration aimed to catalyze lasting positive changes within communities and advance the sustainability and relevance of visual and performing arts.

ViolaLA!

Fall 2022 and 2023

Coordinator

The inaugural ViolaLA was held at the School of Music on LSU's campus. The event was an all day educational community building event that brought violists of all ages and levels together to celebrate the viola and its music. The day included masterclasses, workshops, and other team building activities for the violists and students who attended.

Kobacker and Bryan Virtual Concert Hall Series

Spring 2020

Virtual Concert Hall and Social Media Campaign including promotion, content curation, and live moderating. These were all essential aspects of creating a concert series hosted entirely online. The concert series intended to keep the BGSU College of Musical Arts community and beyond

connected through music and human connection online in an effort to slow the spread of the Covid-19 virus during the 2020 pandemic.

ENSEMBLE AFFILIATIONS

Rapides Symphony Orchestra Alexandria, LA Independent Section Violist	2023-Present
Baton Rouge Symphony Orchestra Baton Rouge, LA Independent Section Violist	2023-Present
Constantanides New Music Ensemble Baton Rouge, LA Violist	2022-2024
Monroe Symphony Orchestra Section Violist	2021-2024
Lakeside Chataqua Symphony Orchestra Lakeside-Marblehead, OH Independent Section Violist	2022-Present
Sonic Harvest Chamber Orchestra Greeley, CO Resident Artist and Founding Member	2017-2019
UNCOmmon New Music Ensemble Greeley, CO Violist and Composer	2017-2019

MENTORS AND TEACHERS

Laura McDermott Denver, Colorado	2001 – 2014 (viola, violin)
Christopher Luther University of Northern Colorado	Fall 2014 – Spring 2017 (viola)
Daniel Keasler Mahidol University College of Music, Thailand	2016 – 2017 (viola, study abroad)
Anne Lanzilotti University of Northern Colorado	Fall 2017 – Spring 2019 (viola, composition)
Matthew McBride-Daline Bowling Green State University, Ohio	Fall 2019 – Spring 2021 (viola)
Kimberly Sparr Louisiana State University	Fall 2021 – Present (viola)

MASTER CLASS PERFORMANCES

Don McInnes | Professor Emeritus, USC Thornton School of Music

University of Northern Colorado Fall 2014

Simon Rowland-Jones | Royal College of Music and Guildhall School of Music and Drama

University of Northern Colorado Fall 2014

Timothy Deighton | Professor of Viola at Penn State

University of Northern Colorado Fall 2016

Anne Lanzilotti | Director of Community Engagement for Hawai'i Contemporary

University of Northern Colorado Spring 2017

Daphne Gerling | Professor of Viola at the University of North Texas

University of Northern Colorado Fall 2018

Jack Stultz | Violist with the Ensemble InterContemporain

University of Northern Colorado Fall 2018

Garth Knox | Former Violist with the Arditti Quartet and the Ensemble InterContemporain

University of Northern Colorado Spring 2019

Rudolf Haken | Professor of Viola at the University of Illinois

Bowling Green State University Fall 2019

Leah Rose | Personal Coach and Freelance Violist

Bowling Green State University Spring 2021

Peter Askim | Artistic Director of Next Festival for Emerging Artists

Next Festival for Emerging Artists Summer 2021

Victoria Chiang | Professor of Viola at Peabody Conservatory

Louisiana State University Spring 2022

Elias Goldstein | Professor of Viola University of Delaware

Louisiana State University Fall 2023

FESTIVAL ATTENDANCE

Next Festival for Emerging Artists, Fellow 2020, 2021, 2022 Seasons

Montecito International Music Festival, Composer & Performer 2019 Season

Arts Letters & Numbers, Composer & Performer 2018 Season

COMPOSITIONS

Musical Murder Mysteries, text/game piece for non-fixed ensemble 2017

1984, for solo viola accompanied by cassette tape player 2018

Tales from Fujian, fixed media piece 2018

<i>Enigma</i> , for solo viola and electronics triggered by a tarantula	2018
<i>A walk in nature</i> , for unaccompanied solo viola	2018
<i>Cards Against Musicians</i> , text/game piece for non-fixed ensemble	2018
<i>Tulpa</i> , trio for two cellos and viola	2019
<i>Departure or Arrival</i> , trio for violin, viola, cello, and luggage	2019
<i>the letter</i> , fixed media piece	2020

ALBUM APPEARANCES

<i>Uncommon Ensemble: Live at Foundation Hall</i>	January 23, 2019
Uncommon Ensemble, Bear Records Colorado	
<i>Incidental Music to FACE, a Multimedia Movement Piece</i>	December 29, 2018
Music by Conner Leigh Shaw	

PRESENTATIONS AND GUEST LECTURES

Guest Lecture, Graduate Student Research Conference	April 30 th , 2024
Performance “Sola” for viola and electronics by Ana Thorvaldsdottir	
Baton Rouge, Louisiana, United States of America	
Guest Lecture, 48th International Viola Congress	June 9, 2023
Lecture, “The Bartók Viola Concerto: Authenticity, Identity and Performance Practice”	
Salaya, Bangkok, Thailand	
Guest Lecture, Music Entrepreneurship	January 25, 2021
Lecture, “Social Media as Tools for Marketing”	
Bowling Green State University, OH	
Student Lecturer, 44th International Viola Congress	September 1 – 5, 2017
Paper Presentation, “Dancing with Death: Shostakovich and Bartok’s Final Works”	
Wellington, New Zealand	

HONORS , SCHOLARSHIPS, AND AWARDS

<u>BGSU College of Musical Arts Dean’s Service Award</u>	2020
The Dean’s Service Award was given in recognition of the efforts for the “Kobacker and Bryan Virtual Concert Hall Series” when classes moved online and all performances were cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The award is given to those who perform outstanding service to the College of Music at Bowling Green State University.	
<u>UNCO Arts Innovation Award 2nd Place</u>	2018
The Arts Innovation Award is a cross disciplinary creative competition for performing and visual arts at the University of Northern Colorado. The intention of the competition is to encourage	

collaboration across performing and visual arts and media. The submission was “Enigma for solo viola and electronics triggered by tarantula” where the element of a non-human “performer” is introduced as an element of organic improvisation and collaboration.

Office of Undergraduate Research Grant

2017

The Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR) provides support and recognition for undergraduate student research and creative endeavors for all Colleges at the University of Northern Colorado, furthering the University's goals for active learning, creativity, and original research.

UNCO Center for International Education Scholarship

2016

The CIE at the University of Northern Colorado provided tuition scholarship for studying abroad in Bangkok, Thailand at Mahidol University College of Music.

UNCO School of Music Talent Scholarship

2014

Incoming students auditioning for the University of Northern Colorado School of Music are eligible for a talent award scholarship that covers tuition for a degree in music performance.