

# **Dawn Wells Neely**

**Associate Professor of Voice and Director of Opera Workshop  
Stage Director and Soprano  
B.M., M.A., D.M.A.**

## **Curriculum Vitae**

### **Teaching Experience**

#### ***University of West Georgia***

2012-present

\* Full-time Instructor of Voice for music majors in performance, music education, and music minors

\* Director of UWG Opera Workshop: Music and Stage Director

\* Publications:

Peer-Reviewed Article: Journal of Singing, November/December 2016, *Body Consciousness and Singers: Do Voice Teachers Use Mind-Body Methods with Students and in their Own Practice?*

Chapter in a Book (Invited): *The Voice Teacher's Cookbook*, Brian Winnie, ed. Meredith Music Resource, April 2018.

\*Presentations (peer-reviewed):

National Opera Association Conference: *Cultivating Success: Strategies for Developing Opera Programs*, New Orleans, 2018. (Co-led Panel Discussion)

Innovations in Pedagogy Conference Co-presented with Dr. Lisa Gezon and Dr. Tobin Hart, 2016.

Innovations in Pedagogy, University of West Georgia, Co-presented with Dr. Lisa Gezon. Invited to submit a second time due to positive feedback, 2017.

American Harp Society Conference: *Yoga for Harpists*, 2 sessions, for the American Harp Society Conference, peer-reviewed, Atlanta, 2016.

\* Continuing Education:

Contemporary Commercial Music Vocal Pedagogy Institute, Shenandoah University  
Sessions I, II, and Musical Theater 2019

#### ***University of Alabama***

2009-2012

\*Graduate Teaching Assistant for the voice area (2010-2012)

\* Class Voice for Non-Music Majors

\* Private lessons for Non-Music Majors

\*Assistant teaching for Professor: Dr. Jennifer G. Cowgill

\*Graduate Assistant for the Opera Workshop and Opera Production (2009-2010)

\* Assisted with Opera Workshop classes

\* Assisted with Fall Opera Scenes: stage managing, props, set building

\* Assisted with full Opera production in the Spring and Musical Theatre Night: stage managing, props, set building

- Guest Clinician for Acting*** 2010-2011  
 \* University of Alabama Opera Workshop: Teaching acting classes for singers focusing on improvisation and stage movement  
 \* Druid City Opera Workshop Training Program (Tuscaloosa, AL) Teaching acting classes for singers focusing on improvisation, scene work and movement  
<http://music.ua.edu/departments/opera/druid-city-opera-workshop/>
- University of Alabama at Huntsville*** 2006- 2009  
 \*Part-time voice faculty  
 \*Public Relations contact for Department of Music
- Alabama A&M University*** 2007-2009  
 \*Part-time voice faculty
- Ars Nova Incorporated***, Huntsville, AL 2005-2008  
 \*Voice Instructor, Public Relations Administrator, Grant Writer  
 \*Musical Director for Children’s Musical *Really Rosie*, 2006
- University of Alabama Community Music School*** 2009-2011  
 \*Voice Instructor: individual work with students of all ages

## **Directing Experience**

- University of West Georgia Large-Scale Operas***  
 \* *Die Fledermaus* (English), J. Strauss II, 2019  
 \* Double-bill: *The Songstress* (Haydn)/*An Embarrassing Position* (Dan Shore) 2018  
 \* *Patience*, Gilbert and Sullivan, 2017  
 \* *The Marriage of Figaro*, W.A. Mozart, 2016  
 \* *Ruddigore*, Gilbert and Sullivan, 2015  
 \* *Orpheus in the Underworld*, Jacques Offenbach, 2014  
 \* Double-bill: *Talk Opera* (Milton Granger) /*The Chatterboxes* (Offenbach), 2013
- University of West Georgia Fall Scenes***  
 \* Fall Opera Scenes, 2012  
 \* A Toast to Opera, 2013  
 \* Love Opera Style, 2014  
 \* Mostly Mozart, 2015  
 \* I have a Song to Sing, 2016  
 \* Something Old, Something New, 2017  
 \* Literature Out Loud, Opera Scenes 2018

***Druid City Opera Workshop:*** Scenes Director and Acting Instructor, 2011, 2017-present.

***Pittsburgh Festival Opera*** (formerly Pittsburgh Opera Theater Summerfest): Assistant Director and Directing Intern, 2015.

***Harrower Opera Workshop***: Assistant Director and Intern, 2013 and 2014, Scenes Director 2013

***Atlanta Opera: 24-Hour Opera***: Invited Director. Audience Favorite Winner 2013.

***Richard Crittenden Opera Workshop***: Directing Seminar, 2012.

***University of Alabama Opera Theatre (UAOT)***: Graduate Student: Directed Scenes and one-act opera., 2010-2011

***In a Garden***, Kupferman, Full One-Act Opera for Spring Opera One-Acts production, March 2011.

## **Recitals and Exhibitions**

### ***Invited Recitals:***

- \* Tabor College: Guest Recital as part of the Voice Festival, Hillsboro, KS, Fall 2017. Works by Grieg, Poldowski, Barber, Rodrigo, Griffes, Carter, Gershwin, Weill, Sondheim and Bernstein
- \* Reindhart University, Solo Recital, Fall 2017, GA. Works by Grieg, Poldowski, Barber, Rodrigo, Griffes, Carter, Gershwin, Weill, Sondheim and Bernstein
- \*Mid-Day Concert Series, Douglasville First United Methodist Church, Douglasville, 2017. Works by Fauré, Malotte, Carter, and Bach
- \* Mississippi State University, Solo Recital, Starkville, MS, Spring 2018. Works by Grieg, Poldowski, Barber, Rodrigo, Griffes, Carter, James Grant, and Bernstein
- \*Mars Hill University, Solo Recital, Mars Hill, NC, Fall 2018.

### ***Druid City Ensemble (professional Chamber Ensemble):***

- \* American Harp Society Conference, Invited recital, Winston-Salem, NC, Summer 2019
- \* Exhibition: Southeastern Composers League Form, Campbell University, SC, 2016
- \*Birmingham Art Music Alliance (BAMA) commissioned new works for the Druid City Ensemble for 2 full concerts: Southside Baptist Church, Birmingham, AL and the University of Montevallo, AL, Fall 2015.
- \* Lincoln Memorial University, Full Recital and Masterclass, TN, 2014.
- \* Mid-South Flute Convention, performance exhibition, Murfreesboro, TN, 2014.
- \* University of Middle Tennessee State, Murfreesboro, TN, Full Recital, 2014.
- \* University of North Alabama, Full Recital, Florence, AL 2014.
- \* Friends of the Window Concert Series, Full Recital, Chicago, IL, 2013.

### ***University of West Georgia Recitals:***

- \* Solo recital, Fall 2013. Works by Handel, Debussy, Rodrigo, Strauss, Wolf and Mozart

- \* Musical Magic: special recital featuring faculty and students, Fall 2013
- \* Druid City Ensemble (professional ensemble member) recital, Fall 2014. Works by Ravel, Saint-Saëns, Corigliano, Stokes, Caplet, Tournier, Crumb and Bishop
- \* Solo recital, Fall 2015. Works by Mozart, Schubert, Debussy, Szulc, Bachelet, Strauss, Wolf, Hoiby and Bernstein
- \* An Evening of Arias (special recital): with special guests, including Dr. Christy Lee, vocal coach and collaborative pianist. Spring 2016
- \* Solo recital, Fall 2017. Works by Grieg, Poldowski, Barber, Rodrigo, Griffes, Carter, Gershwin, Weill, Sondheim and Bernstein

## **Master Class Clinician**

- \* Lincoln Memorial University: Masterclass with voice students, 2014
- \* Tabor College: Masterclass: class with voice students, 2017
- \* Mississippi State University: class with voice students, 2018
- \* Mars Hill University, NC: class with voice students, 2018

## **Workshops/Other Clinicians**

- \* University of Alabama Opera Theatre: Acting Clinician. This workshop involved improvisation exercises focused on helping singing actors (opera students) improve their acting skills through improvisation, 2013.
- \* Clear Rivers Chorus, Voice Clinician: This workshop involved working on vocal technique and choral sound, 2015.
- \* Nashville Harp Society: Session on Yoga for Musicians, Nashville, TN, 2015.
- \* Tabor College, 2017
  - Yoga Workshop: This class was designed for singers and theater students.
  - Voice Clinician: During the Tabor Voice Festival, I led 3 mini-masterclasses for high school and college students in the voice Competition.
- \* LGPE Clinician: Clinician for LGPE rehearsal (Villa Rica High School and Bay View Middle School, Spring 2019)
- \* Yoga for Singers: Carrollton High School. Two sessions with chorus, 2019

## **Professional Affiliations**

- \* NOA – National Opera Association:
  - Vice-President for Regions (2018-present)
  - Southeastern Regional Governor (2014-2017)

- Collegiate Opera Scenes Competition Committee Chair (2017-present)
- \* NATS- National Association of Teachers of Singing: member 2012-present
- \* Yoga Alliance- Received 200 Level Teaching Certificate, 2015, Member 2015-present

## **Adjudication Experience**

Literary Competitions: Carrollton, GA Public and Private	Judge, 2019
National Opera Association Collegiate Opera Scenes Competition Finals, Santa Barbara, CA	Judge 2017
Tabor College Voice Festival, Fall 2017, Hillsboro, KS.	Judge 2017
Bella Voce Youth Vocal Competition, Atlanta, GA	Judge 2017
Regional Literary Competition, Carrollton, GA	Judge 2017
Regional Literary Competition, Bremen, GA	Judge 2015
Kiwanis Art and Music Showcase, Carrollton	Judge 2014
National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS), Alabama	Judge 2007- present
Chattanooga Symphony and Opera Competition	Judge 2008

## **Arts Administration Experience**

***North Avenue Presbyterian Church*** May 2012-August 2012  
 \*Administrative Assistant to the Director of Music & The Arts. Carried out marketing and public relations duties for the programs supported by the church's Music & The Arts department. Assisted with daily duties of the music department. Developed a monthly Music & The Arts Newsletter and presence on Facebook to promote musical programs and the music ensembles associated with the church.

***Ars Nova School of the Arts*** 2005-2008  
 \*Public Relations and Grant Writer. Carried out marketing and public relations duties for both the school and its opera and musical theatre productions. Submitted and awarded for a number of grants from Alabama State Council on the Arts, Boeing, and Target.

***Birmingham Music Cooperative*** Summer/Fall 2005  
 \*Interim Director of Marketing and Public Relations. Carried out marketing and public relations duties for the Birmingham Art Music Alliance, Birmingham Chamber Music Society, Birmingham Music Club, and Opera Birmingham.

***Florida State Opera (FSU)*** 2004-2005  
 \*Internship: Grant writing and research for productions and opera outreach. Opera outreach administrator: contacted Leon County public and private school music teachers to schedule outreach performances. Created weekly coaching schedules for students cast in FSU Opera productions. Created flyers to announce/market special events: workshops, speakers, etc.

## **Opera Birmingham**

Summer 2004

\*Internship: Assisting with production details and costume/prop inventory, opera outreach, fundraising events, and annual vocal competition. Worked on season campaign and direct mail marketing to subscribers and potential patrons. Database entry for subscriptions and ticket sales.

## **Florida State University Opera Outreach**

Spring 2004

\*Worked with Tallahassee elementary teachers to help integrate opera program into curriculum, gave opera discussions/lessons to classes before scenes programs to help students better understand the art of opera.

# **Performance Experience**

## **Full Opera Roles**

Amahl	<i>Amahl and the Night Visitors</i>	MusicOnSite, Inc.	2017
Despina	<i>Così fan tutte</i>	University of Alabama Opera Theatre	2012
Geraldine	<i>Hand of Bridge</i>	UA Opera Theatre	2011
Laurentia	<i>The Beautiful Bridegroom</i>	UA Opera Theatre	2011
Zerlina	<i>Don Giovanni</i>	Opera in the Ozarks, AR	2010
Gianetta	<i>The Gondoliers</i>	UA Opera Theatre	2010
Gretel	<i>Hänsel und Gretel</i>	Opera in the Ozarks	2009
Pousette	<i>Manon</i>	Opera in the Ozarks	2009
Suor Dolcina	<i>Suor Angelica</i>	Ars Nova, School of the Arts, AL	2006
Despina	<i>Così fan tutte</i>	UA Opera Theatre	2000

## **Partial Opera Roles**

Adina	<i>L'elisir d'amore</i>	UA Opera Theatre	2011
Gilda	<i>Rigoletto</i>	UA Opera Theatre	2010
Pamina	<i>The Magic Flute</i>	Opera in the Ozarks	2010
Oscar	<i>Un ballo in maschera</i>	UA Opera Theatre	2009
Ännchen	<i>Der Freischütz</i>	Memphis Opera & Song Academy	2008
Sophie	<i>Der Rosenkavalier</i>	Memphis Opera & Song Academy	2008
Lakmé	<i>Lakmé</i>	Crittenden Opera Studio Workshop, DC	2007
Monica	<i>The Medium</i>	Crittenden Opera Studio Workshop	2007
Norina	<i>Don Pasquale</i>	Florida State Opera Workshop	2003
Despina	<i>Così fan Tutte</i>	Florida State Opera Workshop	2004
Susanna	<i>The Marriage of Figaro</i>	Harrower Opera Workshop, GA	2001
Gretel	<i>Hänsel und Gretel</i>	Harrower Opera Workshop	2001

## **Contemporary Music Performances**

### **Philomel (Babbitt)**

The Alabama Contemporary Ensemble Spring 2015 Concert.

### **Federico's Little Songs for Children (Crumb)**

The Alabama Contemporary Ensemble Spring 2010 Concert, Shelton State Community College, 2010, Alabama School of the Arts, 2010, and Friends of the Window Concert Series, Chicago, IL 2010, 2011, 2013 (with Druid City Ensemble)

**Ode (Westergaard)**

The Alabama Contemporary Ensemble Fall 2010 Concert, part of the Westergaard Endowed Chair Residency

**Geistliche Lieder, Op. 15 (Webern)**

The Alabama Contemporary Ensemble Fall 2010 Concert, Shelton State Community College 2010, Alabama School of the Arts 2010, and Chicago, IL 2010-2011

**Pierrot Lunaire, Teil 1 (Schoenberg)**

The Alabama Contemporary Ensemble Spring 2011 Concert

**Nature Ternua Nature (David Mahloch)**

David Mahloch, DMA Composition Recital DMA Composition 2011, The Alabama Contemporary Ensemble Spring 2011 Concert

**Look Upon These Faces (Amir Zaheri)**

DMA Resident Composer (Currently Assistant Professor of Theory at The University of Alabama). University of Alabama Opera Theatre, 2011

**O King! (Berio)**

The Alabama Contemporary Ensemble Spring 2012 Concert, Shelton State Community College and in Chicago, IL, 2012

**3 Volkslieder, Op. 17 (Webern)**

The Alabama Contemporary Ensemble Spring 2012 Concert, Shelton State Community College and Chicago, IL, 2012

**Sex carmina Alcaei *Liriche greche* (Dallapiccola)**

The Alabama Contemporary Ensemble Fall 2012 Concert, Shelton State Community College and Chicago, IL, 2012

**Other Engagements**

Soloist	UWG Concert: Rossini Stabat Mater	Carrollton and Atlanta, GA	2018
Soloist	UWG Concert: Schubert Mass in G	Carrollton, GA	2017
Soloist	UWG Concert: Angels in the Architecture	Carrollton, GA	2016
Soloist	UWG Concert: I bevitori (Donizetti)	Carrollton, Ga	2014
Soloist	Tuscaloosa Symphony Orchestra	Tuscaloosa, AL	2012
Soloist	Terrific Tuesdays Concert Series	Tuscaloosa, AL	2010-2012
Soloist	UA Huntsville Concert: Bach Cantata 106	Huntsville, AL	2009
Soloist	UA Huntsville Premier: 40- Year Requiem	Huntsville, AL	2009

**Conductors and Directors**

Andy Anderson- Conductor	Mobile Opera (currently freelance)
Paul Houghtaling – Director	University of Alabama
Roger Cantrell – Conductor	Opera in the Ozarks
Gary Casity - Conductor	Opera in the Ozarks
Sara Widzer – Director	Opera in the Ozarks

Alan Hicks - Director	Opera in the Ozarks
Michael Leinert – Director	Memphis Opera & Song Academy
Susan Owen-Leinert – Director/Coach	Memphis Opera & Song Academy
Richard Crittenden – Director	Crittenden Opera Workshop
Elizabeth Vrenios – Director	Crittenden Opera Workshop
Edward White Sr. – Voice/Coach/ Director	University of Alabama
Matthew Lata – Director of FSU Opera / opera workshop	Florida State University

## Education

### ***University of Alabama***

Tuscaloosa, AL

- \*DMA in Vocal Performance 2008-December 2012
- \*Dr. Jennifer Griffith Cowgill: Voice Professor
- \*Graduate Assistant/Teaching Assistant
- \*Document (December 2012): *Body Conscious: A Comparative Study of Body Awareness and Alignment Methods for Singers and If Teachers Integrate them into their Teaching*
- \*Lecture topic: *Sprechstimme* in *Pierrot lunaire*: Influences and Performance Practice

### ***Florida State University***

Tallahassee, FL

2003-2005

- \* MA in Arts Administration

### ***University of Alabama***

1998-2002

- \*BM in Vocal Performance 4.0 GPA
- \*Karen White: Voice Professor
- \*Music Scholarship for School of Music
- \*Academic Scholarships

## Upcoming Performances