

MYRA K. RHODEN

410 Triple Creek Trail
Fayetteville, Georgia 30214
mkrhoden@gmail.com | 678-910-0232

EDUCATION

- 2008 **Doctor of Musical Arts**, Conducting
The University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS
Major Document: A History of the Tara Winds Community Band, Jonesboro, GA
Major Professor: Dr. Thomas Frascillo
Classes Assisted: Undergraduate Conducting, Instrumental Methods
- 1999 **Master of Arts**, Music Education
The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL
- 1994 **Bachelor of Science**, Music Education
The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2023 **Legion of Honor**, John Philip Sousa Foundation
- 2023 **Honoree, The Classics: Honoring Black Women in Symphonic Music**, Atlanta Symphony Orchestra
- 2021 **Outstanding Service to Music Award**, Tau Beta Sigma Honorary Band Sorority
- 2021 **International Golden Rose Award**, Women Band Directors International
- 2020 **At Your Best When Put To The Test Award**, Be Part of the Music, nominated by Dr. Paula Crider
- 2018 **National Band Director of the Year**, National Association for Music Education (NAfME)
- 2016 **Citation of Excellence**, National Band Association
- 2014 **Teacher of the Year**, Fayette County High School, Fayetteville, Georgia
- 2011 **Citation of Excellence**, National Band Association
- 2010 **Citation of Excellence**, National Band Association
- 2009 **Citation of Excellence**, National Band Association
- 1997 **Teacher of the Year**, Westlawn Middle School, Tuscaloosa, Alabama
- 1995 **Sallie Mae First Class Teacher Award**, American Association of School Administrators
A national award given to one teacher per state for outstanding performance in the first year of service in the profession

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2024-present **Assistant Professor, Music Education**
University of West Georgia
Conducts the Symphonic Band. Teachers graduate and undergraduate music education courses.
Advisor to the UWG Chapter of the National Association of Music Education
- 2013-2024 **Chairperson, Fine Arts Department**
Fayette County High School, Fayetteville, Georgia
Serves as the department instructional leader and as a liaison between department and school administration
- 2003-2024t **Director of Bands**
Fayette County High School, Fayetteville, Georgia
Responsible for three concert bands (performance levels 6, 4/5, and 2/3/4), competitive marching band, competitive winter guards, and chamber ensembles. Annually hosted events include the FCHS Fine Arts Festival, the FCHS Concerto Competition, and the Lafayette Marching Classic

Concert Band Invitational Performances

Minority Band Directors National Association Concert Band Invitational, Atlanta, Georgia, 2019
Georgia Music Educators Association In-Service Conference, Athens, Georgia, 2016
The University of Alabama Honor Band Festival, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, 2013
Kennesaw State University Concert Band Invitational, Atlanta, Georgia, 2012
The University of South Carolina Band Clinic, Columbia, South Carolina, 2011
The University of Georgia January High School Festival, Athens, Georgia, 2010
Georgia Music Educators Association In-Service Conference, Savannah, Georgia, 2009
Bands of America National Concert Band Festival, Indianapolis, Indiana, 2006
Southeastern United States Concert Band Clinic, Troy University, Alabama, 2006
Georgia Music Educators Association In-Service Conference, Savannah, Georgia, 2005
The University of Georgia January High School Festival, Athens, Georgia, 2005
The University of South Carolina Band Clinic, Columbia, South Carolina, 2004

Chamber Ensemble Invitational Performances

Tuba-Euphonium Ensemble, Georgia Music Educators Association In-Service Conference, 2017
Brass Choir, Georgia Music Educators Association In-Service Conference, 2014
Friday Night Alive television show on NBC 11Alive-Atlanta, Georgia
Fayette County Board of Education Teacher of the Year Program
Local Grand Openings of stores and retail centers

Marching Band Performances and Distinctions

Only Superior Band Ratings earned at metropolitan Atlanta marching band competitions since 2003

20 Grand Championships

Won at metropolitan Atlanta area marching band competitions since 2007, including three times at the Valhalla Classic and four times at the Heart of Georgia Marching Band Invitational

15 Silver Grand Championships (second place)

Won at metropolitan Atlanta area competitions since 2007

Bands of America Regional and Super-Regional Championships

Finalist, 2007-2015

Class Placement Awards, 2012, 2011, 2009, 2008

Finalist, Lassiter Marching Band Showcase, Marietta, Georgia, 2010, 2009

Parades

Waikiki Holiday Parade, Honolulu, Hawaii, 2023
National Television Feature, "The Hollywood Christmas Parade Greatest Moments," 2020
Waikiki Holiday Parade, Honolulu, Hawaii, 2019
Hollywood Christmas Parade, California, 2016
Florida Citrus Parade, Orlando, 2015
Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Christmas Parade, 2014
Waikiki Holiday Parade, Honolulu, Hawaii, 2012
New Year's Day Parade, London, England, 2009
Tournament of Roses Parade, Pasadena, California, 2007
New Year's Day Parade, London England, 2005
Local MLK Day, Veteran's Day, and Homecoming Parades

Individual Student Achievements

National Recognitions

United States Army All-American Marching Band
Summer Music Festivals: Boston University Tanglewood Institute, Brevard Music Center, Interlochen Arts Camp, Sewanee Music Festival

State and Regional Recognitions

Multiple students annually selected for the Georgia All-State Band and Full Orchestra, the Georgia Music Educators Association District VI Honor Band, and the Governor's Honors Program

Auditioned Ensembles

Multiple students selected for the Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra, Atlanta Youth Wind Symphony, Metropolitan Youth Symphony Orchestra, Fayette Philharmonic, Metropolitan Atlanta Youth Wind Ensemble, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Talent Development Program, and various University Honor Bands

1995-present

Cooperating Teacher

Mentored undergraduate Music Education major interns and clinical experience students from Alabama State University, Auburn University, Clayton State University, Georgia State University, Jacksonville State University, the University of Alabama, and the University of West Georgia

2019-2022

Instructor, VanderCook College of Music, Chicago, Illinois

Music Education Center of America (MECA) Summer Continuing Education
Courses Taught:

Winning Strategies for a Positive Band Environment: Leadership, Accountability, Community
Band Administration for a Comprehensive Program

2001-2003

Director of Bands

Sidney Lanier High School, Montgomery, Alabama
Implemented the Montgomery Brass Clinic for brass students in grades 7-12. Implemented the Lanier Invitational Percussion Competition for high school percussionists.

Notable Performances

Superior Ratings, District VI Concert Band Festival
Grand Champion, Central Alabama Marching Band Festival, 2002, 2001
Grand Champion, The Calhoun High School Percussion Competition, 2002

Disney Magic Music Days, Orlando
Performances at Tennessee State University, Clark-Atlanta University, Miles College, and Alabama State University

- 1997-2001 **Director of Bands**
Booker T. Washington High School, Tuskegee, Alabama
Implemented the “Heritage Festival: Battle of the Bands,” an adjudicated marching band festival for traditional style marching bands. Received \$5000 National Foundation for the Improvement of Education Arts @ Work Grants Program: Technology in Arts Instruction. Received \$5000 Grant for the purchase of instruments.
- Notable Performances**
Superior Ratings, District and State Concert Band Festivals
Best Overall and Best in Class Awards, Music in the Parks, Atlanta, Georgia, 2001
Represented Alabama in the National Festival of the States, New York, 1998
- 1994-1997 **Director of Bands**
Westlawn Middle School, Tuscaloosa, Alabama
Planned and implemented the school’s first band program. Increased enrollment from fifty students to one hundred forty students in two years. Assisted with marching band at Central High School.

RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2008-present **Founder, Athena Music and Leadership**
www.athenacamp.com
Built on a foundation of social and emotional learning and developing musicianship, the Athena curriculum provides a unique experience and community for young women in music
- Athena Muse Program, for college music majors**
A mentorship program provides hands-on experience through serving as faculty assistants, event counselors, and role models for younger students
- Athena Directors Clinic, for practicing teachers**
Gives women in music education the opportunity to connect with colleagues, share experiences, discuss issues, and explore strategies to help overcome challenges in music education
- Athena Music and Leadership Camp, for middle and high school students**
Athena Virtual Academy
A comprehensive, four- or five-day, intensive summer study exclusively for female middle and high school-level musicians, taught by successful female professional music educators
- Athena Honor Ensemble, for middle and high school students**
A unique, virtual honor event that includes clinics and workshops with renowned Athena faculty and provides supplementary music and leadership opportunities
- Club Athena, for middle and high school students**
A virtual community experience that meets monthly to emphasize music, leadership, and team-building skills
- 2013-present **Founder, New Notes Summer Band Camps**
Summer day camps for middle school-level musicians in the metropolitan-Atlanta area

2003-2008 **Performer**, Tara Winds Community Band, Dr. David Gregory, Conductor

2001-2003 **Performer**, Southeast Alabama Community Band, Dr. John M. Long, Conductor

GUEST CONDUCTING AND CLINICIAN ENGAGEMENTS

State and Regional Honor Band Conductor

North Dakota All-State Band, scheduled for 2026
California All-State Band, scheduled for 2026
Palm Beach County Honor Band, Florida, scheduled for 2026
Spotlight on Young Musicians Concert, Florida, scheduled for 2026
Alabama Bandmasters Association District I Honor Band, scheduled for 2026
South Carolina Region One Honor Band, 2026
North Carolina All-State Band, 2025
South Carolina All-State Band, 2025
Henry County Honor Band, Georgia, 2025
South Carolina Region Two Honor Band, 2025
Oahu Central District Band Festival, Hawaii, 2024
Gulf Coast Band Directors Association Honor Band, Mississippi, 2024
Union County Honor Band, North Carolina, 2024
Dr. Lawrence R. Sutherland Wind Festival, California State University, Fresno, 2023
East Tennessee School Band & Orchestra Association All-State East Clinic, 2023
Middle Tennessee School Band & Orchestra Association Mid-State Clinic, 2023
South Carolina Region Six Honor Band, 2023
Tuscaloosa All-County High School Honor Band, Alabama, 2023
Louisiana Music Educators Association District IV Honor Band, 2022
West Tennessee School Band & Orchestra Association All-State Clinic, 2020
South Carolina Region Four Clinic Honor Band, 2020, 2014
Calhoun Honor Band, Alabama, 2020
Georgia Music Educators Association District I Honor Band, 2019
Georgia Music Educators Association District IV Honor Band, 2018, 2011, 2009
South Forsyth Middle School at the University of Alabama Honor Band Festival, 2017
Alabama Bandmasters Association District VI Honor Band, 2016, 2013
Louisiana Bandmasters Association All-Star Honor Band, 2014
Alabama Music Educators Association All-State Band, 2013
Mississippi Bandmasters Association All-State Band, 2012
Georgia Music Educators Association District XIII Honor Band, 2006
Laurens County Honor Band, Dublin, Georgia, 2006
Southeastern United States (SEUS) Honor Band, Troy University, Alabama, 2004
Tuscaloosa City Schools All-City Honor Band, Alabama, 1995

Military, Professional, and Community Band/Orchestra Guest Conductor

United States Air Force Band, Washington, D. C., 2024
Alumni Orchestra, Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Talent Development Program, 2023
St. Cloud Municipal Band, Minnesota, 2019
United States Army Field Band, Georgia Tour, 2018
Tara Winds Community Band, Georgia, 2010

University Honor Band Conductor

University of Alabama, scheduled for 2026
Reinhardt University, Georgia, 2025
Louisiana State University, 2025
Colorado State University, 2024

University of Alabama at Birmingham, 2024
Marshall University, West Virginia, 2024
University of Southern Mississippi, 2024
University of Georgia, 2024
Limestone University, South Carolina, 2023
University of South Carolina, 2018
Winthrop University, South Carolina, 2018
Auburn University, Alabama, 2017
University of Georgia, 2017
Samford University, Alabama, 2015
Jacksonville State University, Alabama, 2013
Mississippi State University, 2013
University of Alabama at Birmingham, 2013
University of Alabama, 2011
Southeastern United States Honor Band at Troy University, Alabama, 2004

Summer Camp Conductor

Illinois Summer Youth Music, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, 2022 (canceled)
University of Wisconsin-Madison Summer Music Clinic, 2022
Athena Music and Leadership Camp, 2009

Middle and High School Symphonic Band Camp Clinician

Martha Stilwell School of the Arts, Georgia, 2025
East Coweta High School, Sharpsburg, Georgia, 2025
Hillgrove High School, Powder Springs, Georgia, 2022
Cedar Shoals High School, Athens, Georgia, 2022, 2016
Grissom High School, Huntsville, Alabama, 2019
Lakeside High School, Atlanta, Georgia, 2018, 2010
Pope High School, Marietta, Georgia, 2017
Chamblee High School, Chamblee, Georgia, 2016
McEachern High School, Powder Springs, Georgia, 2016
Wheeler High School, Marietta, Georgia, 2015
Mundy's Mill High School, Jonesboro, Georgia, 2012
Bowie High School, Austin, Texas, 2011
Hopewell Middle School, Alpharetta, Georgia, 2011
Jonesboro High School, Jonesboro, Georgia, 2011
Lovejoy High School, Lovejoy, Georgia, 2008
Flat Rock Middle School, Tyrone, Georgia, 2007
Booker T. Washington High School, Tuskegee, Alabama, 2003
Hampton University Summer High School Band Camp, Virginia, 1999

ADJUDICATOR/CLINICIAN

Great Lakes Concert Band Festival, Michigan, scheduled for 2026
Virginia Band and Orchestra Directors Association District 12, Fairfax, Virginia, 2025
Metro East Concert Band Festival, a Music for All Affiliate Festival, O'Fallon Township, Illinois, 2024
Southeastern Regional Concert Band Festival, a Music for All Affiliate Festival, Georgia, 2024
Dr. Lawrence R. Sutherland Wind Festival, California State University, Fresno, 2023
Lawrence Central Concert Band Festival, Indiana, 2023
Ignite Music Invitational, a Music for All Affiliate Festival, Florida, 2023
Chicagoland Invitational Concert Band Festival, a Music for All Affiliate Festival, Illinois, 2023
Alabama Music Educators Association Music Performance Assessment, 2014-present
Alabama Band Directors Association Concert Festival, 2012
Georgia Music Educators Association Large Group Performance Evaluations, 2003-present

Districts I, III, IV, V, VII, XI, XII, XIII
American All-Star Dance/Drill Team State Finals, 2003
Various High School Pre-Festival Concerts, Georgia and Alabama, 2003-present
Numerous state, regional, and local marching band competitions, 1993-present
Florida, South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, and Alabama

PROFESSIONAL LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

Empowering Your Girls to Lead Through Music

Georgia Music Educators Association In-Service Conference, 2024
Conn Selmer Institute, Mishawaka, Indiana, 2023
National Association for Music Education, Eastern Division Conference, virtual, 2021
REACH Through Music Student Leadership and Social Emotional Learning Conference, virtual, 2021
Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University Band Camp Directors Clinic, virtual, 2020

UNITY (A Keynote Address)

Minnesota Music Educators Association Midwinter Conference, Minneapolis, 2025
Kansas Bandmasters Association 50th Annual Summer Convention, Wichita, Kansas 2023
cNAfME Collegiate Fall Summit, Alabama, 2022

Rehearsal and Performance Planning

Conn-Selmer Institute-Atlanta, Georgia, 2023

Developing a Culture of Excellence: The Foundation for Musical Success

The Midwest Clinic: International Band and Orchestra Conference, Chicago, Illinois, 2022

Use What You've Got to Get What You Want

Oklahoma Bandmasters Association Summer Convention, Tulsa, Oklahoma, 2022 (canceled)
Georgia Music Educators Association In-Service Conference, Athens, Georgia, 2017

Creating "The Standard" and Sticking to It: The Why, The What, and The How

Maryland Music Educators Association Annual State Conference, 2025
Minnesota Music Educators Association Midwinter Convention, 2025
Creative Connections for Arts Educators Conference, Georgia, 2025
Marshall University Professional Development Series, West Virginia, 2024
Conn Selmer Institute Southeast, 2024
Kansas Bandmasters Association 50th Annual Summer Convention, 2023
Western Carolina University Summer Symposium, Cullowee, North Carolina, 2023
Oklahoma Bandmasters Association Summer Convention, Tulsa, Oklahoma, 2022 (canceled)
Saskatchewan (Canada) Music Conference, virtual, 2021
Wyoming Music Educators Association State Music Conference, Gillette, Wyoming 2020
Allen University Director In-Service, Columbia, South Carolina, 2020
The Midwest Clinic: International Band and Orchestra Conference, Chicago, Illinois, 2019
Winthrop Invitational Band Camp, Rock Hill, South Carolina, 2018
Music for All Summer Symposium, Muncie, Indiana 2018

Effectively Communicating with Influencers and Decision Makers

Conn-Selmer Institute-Atlanta, Georgia, 2023
Western Carolina Summer Symposium, Cullowee, North Carolina, 2023
Conn-Selmer Institute, Mishawaka, Indiana, 2023
Conn-Selmer Institute, Mishawaka, Indiana, 2022

From the Ears of the Adjudicator

Conn Selmer Institute, Mishawaka, Indiana, 2023

I Have To Do That, Too? The Hat-Juggling of a Band Director

Conn-Selmer Institute, Mishawaka, Indiana, 2022

Wyoming Music Educators Association State Music Conference, Gillette, Wyoming, 2020

Invited Speaker

Women Band Directors International, North Carolina Chapter, virtual, 2022

Kennesaw State University Music Education Colloquium, virtual, 2022

Same Band, New Building: Retention from Middle to High School

Conn-Selmer Music Education Master Class Quarterly Professional Development, virtual, 2022

Implementing Your Student Leadership Program

Michigan State University Marching Band Methods Class, virtual, 2025, 2024, 2023, 2022, 2021

Maryland Music Educators Association Student Leadership Summit, virtual, 2022

University of Illinois Marching Band Procedures Class, virtual, 2021

Creating Self-Sufficient Musicians

Habits Universal Summer Institute, Charleston, South Carolina, 2022

Georgia Music Educators Association In-Service Conference, Athens, Georgia, 2022

Conn-Selmer Institute-Connect, virtual, 2020

Wyoming Music Educators Association State Music Conference, Gillette, Wyoming, 2020

Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles at Heart of Los Angeles Teaching Artist In-Service, Los Angeles, California, 2019

Leadership in the Arts

Maryland Music Educators Association Student Leadership Summit, virtual, 2021

Alabama Music Educators Association Future Alabama Music Educators (FAME) Conference, virtual, 2021

Cultural Responsiveness in the Music Classroom

First Philadelphia Preparatory School, Pennsylvania, virtual, 2021

Connecting with Students and the Community

NAfME Collegiate Advisory Summit, virtual, 2021

Bridging the Gap: Retaining Band Students from Middle to High School

Fayette County Public Schools In-Service, 2023

Conn-Selmer Institute-Connect, virtual, 2021

From the Band Hall to the Zoom Call

California Music Educators Association, Bay Section, virtual, 2020

“Women in Music” Series, Tau Beta Sigma

University of Maryland, virtual, 2020

Norfolk State University, virtual, 2020

Tuskegee University, Alabama, 2019

Retaining and Reclaiming in Uncertain Times

Conn-Selmer Institute Workshop, virtual, 2020

Including All Cultures in Your Program

Troy University, Troy, Alabama, virtual, 2020

Things We Forget to Remember

Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles at Heart of Los Angeles Teaching Artist In-Service, California, 2019

Beginning with the End in Mind

Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles at Heart of Los Angeles Teaching Artist In-Service, California, 2019

Recruitment and Retention

Clarke County School District, Athens, Georgia, 2016

The Journey Towards a Successful Comprehensive Program

Clarke County School District, Athens, Georgia, 2016

Developing A Comprehensive Band Program

Metro Nashville Public Schools Instrumental Music Summit, Nashville, Tennessee, 2015

The Leader as an Assistant to the Band Director

Georgia State University Student Leadership Institute, Atlanta, Georgia, 2012

Women in Music

Mississippi Bandmasters Association State Band Clinic Women's Luncheon, Natchez, Mississippi, 2012

Smart Music and Charms in the Band Classroom

Dekalb County Schools, Georgia, 2009

Technology for Real Middle and High School Bands

National Symposium on Music Instruction Technology, Auburn University, Alabama, 2001

Woodwind Techniques for Directors

Miles College Summer Band Camp Directors Clinic, Birmingham, Alabama, 2001

PANELIST

Representation: In the Band Room and the Profession

North Carolina All-State Band Clinic Professional Development Session, 2022

Women Rising to the Podium Round Table

North Carolina Music Educators Association, virtual, 2020

Women in Band

Alabama A&M University Music Education Department, virtual, 2020

“Be Better” Based Solutions Round Table

Colorado Bandmasters Association, virtual, 2020

Building a Culture of Excellence

Directors' Toolbox, virtual, 2020

Conducting Conversations

Hosted by Director of Bands at University of California, Los Angeles, virtual, 2020

Educational Professionalism and Ethics

Music for All's Mind the Gap for Young and Future Music Educators, virtual, 2020

Engaging the Student Musician

Music for All's Mind the Gap for Young and Future Music Educators, virtual, 2020

If I Only Knew...

University of Georgia January High School Music Festival, 2018

ARTICLES AND INTERVIEWS

Podcast Features

The Honor Role, October 31, 2023

The Music Ed Mentor, Episode 95, August 2021

Tales from the Band Room, Episode 7, March 2021

Everything Band, Episode 81, September 2018

Magazine and Newspaper Article Features

"Rhoden joins Bandworld Legion of Honor." Fayette County News, January 2024

"Dr. Rhoden Honored by Atlanta Symphony Orchestra." Fayette County News, October 2023

"Fayette County High School's Rhoden Makes Bandmaster History." The Citizen Newspaper, March 2023

"FCHS's Rhoden Honored for Music Education." The Citizen Newspaper, January 2022

"Limitless Possibility: Dr. Myra Rhoden." Fayette Woman Magazine, August 2019

"Independent Summer Music Camps." School Band and Orchestra Magazine, October 2018

"Marching to Success." Teaching Music Magazine, April 2018

"FCHS's Rhoden Passes Down Passion for Music." Fayette County News, February 2018

Articles Published

"This...is 2020," National Band Association Georgia State Newsletter, September 2020

"What CAN We Do?" Conn-Selmer VIP Quarterly Teaching Tip, November 2020

Online Live Interview

"Live with Dr. Myra Rhoden." Southern Woman Magazine, February 2021

CONSORTIUM COMMISSIONING PROJECTS

Johnnie Vinson, *When Nothing Else Will*, published as *Flourish and Processional* (2019)

James Curnow, *Nexus* (2014)

Mark Camphouse, *Second Essay for Symphonic Band* (2014)

PROFESSIONAL HONORS AND ORGANIZATIONS

The American Bandmasters Association, 2023-present

All-American D-Day Band Staff, Normandy, France, 2023

National Band Association, National Chair, Programs of Excellence Blue Ribbon Award, 2021-present

Student Leadership Association for Music, Member, Board of Directors, 2021-present

Conn-Selmer Educational Clinician, 2018-present

Southeastern United States Honor Band Clinic, Troy University, Alabama, Member, Board of Directors, 2005-present

Georgia Music Educators Association,

Organizer, All-State Band, 2005-2019

Chairperson, District VI Band, 2009-2015

Alabama Bandmasters Association, Member, Board of Directors, 2002-2003

Association of Black Women Band Directors, Founder

National Association for Music Education
Phi Beta Mu National Bandmasters Fraternity
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated