

Benjamin A. Opp

Bassoon
Contrabassoon
Saxophone

ben@benjaminopp.com
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Education

Master of Music in Bassoon Performance and Literature

Eastman School of Music, University of Rochester, Rochester, New York
Completed May 2010

- Awarded Performer's Certificate, 2010
- Bassoon studies with John Hunt

Bachelor of Music in Bassoon Performance

University of the Pacific Conservatory of Music, Stockton, California
Completed May 2008, magna cum laude (3.85 GPA)

- Bassoon studies with Donald DaGrade and David Granger
- Saxophone studies with Donald DaGrade

Teaching Experience

Collegiate

Lecturer in Bassoon, California State University, Stanislaus, 2010 – 2012

- Individual Studio Lesson Instructor

Lecturer in Bassoon, San Joaquin Delta College, 2010 – 2012

- Individual Studio Lesson Instructor

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Eastman School of Music, 2008 - 2010

- Individual Studio Lesson Instructor
 - Taught private studio of 3-6 non-music majors
 - Prof. Anne Harrow, faculty supervisor
- Bassoon Methods Class Instructor
 - Taught weekly one-hour bassoon performance and pedagogy class for music education majors
 - Re-developed and expanded course based on existing curriculum
 - Dr. Christopher Azzara, faculty supervisor
- Bassoon Studio Teaching Assistant
 - Taught additional lessons for Eastman bassoon majors
 - Facilitated studio classes
 - Prof. John Hunt, faculty supervisor

Pre-Collegiate

Chamber Music Coach, Summer Music at Stanislaus, 2011

- Coached scholarship woodwind quintet at high school music camp

Private Studio Teaching, California and Illinois, 2007 – 2008, 2010 - present

- Private instruction of elementary through high school bassoon and saxophone students

Elementary General Music Fieldwork, Rochester, New York, 2009

- Assisted and taught lessons in first and second grade general music classes.

Auditions

First Runner-Up, Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra, 2nd Bassoon, 2010

Associate Member, Civic Orchestra of Chicago, 2010 – 2011

Semi-Finalist, New World Symphony, 2009, 2010, 2011

Performance Experience

Orchestral

Stockton Symphony, 2nd bassoon, 3rd bassoon, and contrabassoon, 2010, 2012.

Townsend Opera, 2nd bassoon, 2012.

Stockton Chorale Orchestra, principal and 2nd bassoon, 2006, 2012.

Fremont Symphony, principal bassoon, 2011.

Oakland East Bay Symphony, contrabassoon, 2011.

Berkeley West Edge Opera, principal bassoon, 2011.

Santa Cruz County Symphony, principal bassoon, 2010.

Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, 2nd and 3rd bassoon, 2009.
Under Gunther Herbig and Jeff Tyzik.

Genesee Symphony Orchestra, Batavia, NY, principal bassoon, 2009.

Eastman School of Music Ensembles, 2008 – 2010

Performances with Eastman Philharmonia Orchestra, Musica Nova, Eastman Opera, Eastman Wind Ensemble, and Graduate Chamber Orchestra under Neil Varon, Brad Lubman, Benton Hess, and Mark Davis Scatterday.

University of the Pacific Symphony Orchestra, 2004 - 2008
Under Nicolas Waldvogel.

Solo

Solo Appearance, San Joaquin Delta College Wind Ensemble, 2012.
Performed first movement of Hidas *Concerto*.

Faculty Recitals, CSU Stanislaus, 2011, 2012.

Solo Appearance, Greece Symphony Orchestra, Greece, NY, 2009
Performed Weber *Concerto* for bassoon.

Winner, University of the Pacific Conservatory of Music Concerto Competition, 2007

Performed first movement of Hummel *Concerto* with the University Symphony Orchestra in May 2008.

University of the Pacific Conservatory of Music Honors Recital, 2006, 2007, 2008

Performed selections from Saint-Saëns *Sonata*, Bozza *Récit, Sicilienne, et Rondo*, and Osborne *Rhapsody*.

The Arts at St. John's Young Artist Series, Lodi, CA, 2005
Performed recital of bassoon and saxophone works.

Winner, Stockton Symphony Manlio Silva Concerto Competition, 2003
Performed Glazounov *Concerto for Saxophone* on three concerts with the Stockton Symphony.

Chamber Music

Bella Venti Trio/FABOS! Ensemble, Woodwind trio/quartet, 2010 – 2012

- Selected as an Arts Exposure Experience Provider for the Kennedy Center's "Any Given Child" program
- Selected as a Finalist in the Ladies Musical Club of Seattle Chamber Music Competition 2012

Argestus Woodwind Quintet, 2009 - 2010

Coached by Chien-Kwan Lin. Selected for Eastman School of Music Honors Chamber Recital, Fall 2009 and Spring 2010.

Eastman School of Music Graduate Chamber Music Seminar, 2008

Concert and outreach performances in wind and string trio. Coached by Philip Ying and Steven Doane.

University of the Pacific Chamber Music Class, 2004 - 2008

Concert and outreach performances in woodwind trio, woodwind quintet, piano quintet, piano trio, saxophone quartet, etc. Coached by Thomas Nugent and Patricia Shands.

Second Bassoon, Lodi Chamber Winds, Lodi, CA, 2006

New Music

Plum Green, Kyle Hovatter, 2012

Bassoon and piano duet premiere (entire work, at San Francisco Conservatory)

Plum Green, Kyle Hovatter, 2011

Bassoon and piano duet premiere (first movement).

Warren and Patricia Benson Forum on Creativity, Eastman School of Music,

2009. Premiered new woodwind quintet. Coached by Tony Arnold.

Dance for Bassoon and Piano, Kyle Hovatter, 2009
Bassoon and piano duet premiere.

Improvisation, Kevin Baldwin, 2008
Bassoon solo premiere. Awarded "Honorable Mention" in 2008 NACUSA Young Composer's Competition.

Solo for Bassoon No. 2 "Gremlin Brothers", Kyle Hovatter, 2008
Bassoon solo premiere.

The Caravan Stops for the Night, Dashiell Reed, 2007
Bassoon and oboe duet premiere.

Song of the Cricket, Nathan Riebli, 2007
Opera premiere. Principal bassoon.

Nexus, Devin Farney, 2006
Chamber orchestra work premiere. Principal bassoon.

Dreamscape, Cole Ingraham, 2006
Chamber orchestra work premiere. Principal bassoon.

Solo for Bassoon No. 1 "Seventeen Salamanders", Kyle Hovatter, 2005
Bassoon solo premiere.

Daydreams, Kyle Owen, 2005
Clarinet/bassoon duet premiere.

Quite Quip, Kyle Hovatter, 2004
Saxophone quartet premiere.

Jazz

Baritone Saxophone, New Brubeck Octet, 2005
Performance with Dave Brubeck and Bill Smith during the Brubeck Festival at Mills College, Oakland, California.

Alto Saxophone, University of the Pacific Jazz Ensemble, 2004
Under Patrick Langham. Performance with Jimmy Heath.

Summer Festivals

Aspen Music Festival and School, 2009
Bassoon studies with Nancy Goeres. New Horizon Fellowship.
Performances under Leonard Slatkin, Michael Stern, Jeffrey Kahane, Jane Glover, Fabien Gabel, and James Feddeck.

The MasterWorks Festival, 2006, 2008
Bassoon studies with Terry Ewell and Matthew Morris.
2008: Full scholarship, Concerto Competition Post-College Division Finalist.
2006: Scholarship.

Outreach Performances

Kennedy Center's "Any Given Child" Program, 2012
Outreach performance in Sacramento, CA with FABOS Ensemble

Music for All, Eastman School of Music, 2009
Outreach performances in school and community venues with a woodwind quartet.

Outreach Performances, Stockton, CA, 2008
Six public school outreach performances with a woodwind quintet.

Masterclasses

Per Hannevold, Nancy Goeres, K. David Van Hoesen, Loren Glickman, 2009

Professional Service

University of the Pacific Conservatory of Music Bassoon Faculty Search Committee, Student Representative, 2007-2008

Awards and Honors

Presser Scholarship, 2007

Stockton Symphony Manlio Silva Memorial Scholarship Award,
2004, 2005, 2006, 2007

Mu Phi Epsilon Gerke Collegiate Artist Award, 2006

Excellence in Performance Scholarship, University of the Pacific, 2004-2008

Academic Affiliations

Pi Kappa Lambda, 2007 - present

Phi Kappa Phi, 2007 - present

Mu Phi Epsilon, 2005 - present

Mu Eta Chapter Recording Secretary, 2006 - 2007

Mu Eta Chapter Chaplain, 2005 - 2006

Other Skills

Computer Skills

- Skilled with PC hardware, software, computer building, and troubleshooting
- Experienced with HTML, web development, and graphic design, utilizing Dreamweaver, and Photoshop
- Experienced with short film and digital media production utilizing Adobe Premiere and Apple Motion
- Proficient with standard office applications including Microsoft Office and QuickBooks