

# *Stephen J. Popa*

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## ***Education:***

### **University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music, Cincinnati, Ohio.**

Master of Music in Choral Conducting, September 1998.

### **Baldwin-Wallace College, Berea, Ohio.**

Bachelor of Music Education, June 1992.

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## ***Teaching Experience:***

- 8/01-Present      **Lima City Schools, Lima, Ohio**  
High School Choral Director  
Freshmen, Intermediate, and Concert Choirs, Show Choir, Chamber Choir. Prepare ensembles for four annual concerts, district and state choral contests, community performances, and school outreach performances. Coordinate and host annual choral invitational and guest clinics. Coordinate joint performances within high school music programs. Prepare students for solo performances, solo contests, and multi-state and local honor choirs. Direct and prepare musical. Engineer choral recordings.
- 8/99-6/01        **Miami Valley School (ISACS), Dayton, Ohio**  
Upper School Music Instructor and Studio Voice Teacher  
Upper School Choir, Vocal Chamber Ensemble, Studio Voice Lessons, AP Music Theory, Handbells, Music Appreciation, World Music, History of Rock and Roll. Prepare ensembles for winter and spring concerts, performing trips and community performances. Direct and produce musical. Oversee music budget. Participate in school immersion, a one-month extended learning period focusing on a singular topic.
- 9/96-9/98        **University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music**  
Choral Conducting Graduate Teaching Assistant  
Assistant conductor to Dr. John Leman and the CCM Chorale, Administrative assistant to Dr. Earl Rivers, Director of choral library. Prepare repertoire for choral ensembles at CCM, perform in these ensembles and produce concerts and concert programs. Instrumental conducting study under Mr. Christopher Zimmerman. Further coaching in conducting under Dr. Elmer Thomas.
- 9/93-6/95        **Elmira City Schools, Elmira, New York**  
Choir Director  
Freshmen Mixed Chorus, 7th-8th grade mixed chorus, 7th and 8th grade general music, Introduction to Music Theory. Responsibilities included conducting holiday and spring concerts at high school and junior high, and spring musical.

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***Church Choral Director Experience:***

- 9/05-Closing      **Grace United Methodist Church, Lima, Ohio**  
Choir Director  
Prepare choir for Sunday and special services. Work with other churches in planning joint services. Find repertoire suitable for older congregation and choir.
- 1/04-5/06      **Family of Faith United Methodist Church, Lima, Ohio**  
Choir Director/Consultant  
Serve as rehearsal director to prepare choral anthems for Sunday service in absence of a regular choral directing position.
- 9/99-7/04      **Grace United Methodist Church, Dayton, Ohio**  
Choir Director  
Chancel Choir, Youth Choir, Chamber Choir and Instrumental ensembles. Work collaboratively with other choir directors on staff while combining two adult choirs into a new Sanctuary Choir. Direct annual Boar's Head Festival. Develop small ensembles, such as brass ensemble. Reestablish concert series.
- 9/98-5/99      **Worthington Presbyterian Church, Worthington, Ohio**  
Interim Director of Music  
Oversee music program for 1700 member church. Direct three adult choirs, children's choir, and youth choir. Supervise musicians and support staff for three bell choirs, two additional children's choirs, accompaniment and instrumental needs. Develop and produce annual concert series. Oversee music budget. Conduct Christmas and spring concerts with orchestra. Develop resources for implementation of third worship service. Collaborate with Christian education programs for integration of music.
- 9/96-6/98      **Cathedral of St. Peter in Chains, Cincinnati, Ohio**  
Assistant Choral Conductor and Baritone/Bass Chorister  
Preparation of literature for Sunday, holy days, festivals, and for the annual memorial concert.
- 9/93-9/95      **Grace Church, Elmira, New York**  
Interim choir director 10/94-12/94  
Baritone/Bass Soloist and Section Leader  
Conducted choral selections for Sunday service, church holy days, and an Advent Lessons and Carols service.

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***International Study***

- 7/00      **Eton Choral Course, Eton, United Kingdom**  
Studied with Christopher Robinson (St. John's College, Cambridge) and Ralph Alwood (Eton College) in a week-long intensive seminar in conducting and score study.

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***Performing Experience***

- 9/99-Present      **Cathedral of St. Peter in Chains, Cincinnati, Ohio**  
Guest vocalist  
Perform with this professional choir in yearly concerts and holy day services.
- 9/99-6/01      **Vocal Arts Ensemble, Cincinnati, Ohio**  
9/97-6/98      Baritone/Bass Chorister  
Perform with this professional chorus in four subscription concerts with a repertoire ranging from traditional to recent compositions.
- 11/95-12/95      **Great Lakes Theater Festival, Cleveland, Ohio**  
Promotional caroler for "A Christmas Carol"  
Preparation of carols and other holiday choral music for public performance around the greater Cleveland area including downtown lighting ceremonies. Served as assistant musical director.