

Freya Vazquez

☎ (847) 555-6429 ✉ freya.vazquez@example.com 💼 linkedin.com/example/freyavazquez 📍 Evanston, IL 60201

SUMMARY

Music educator and choral conductor with eight years of higher education teaching and ensemble leadership across applied voice, **choral activities**, **music theory**, aural skills, and performance preparation. Directs **collegiate vocal ensembles** through healthy vocal production, expressive conducting, inclusive repertoire, and clear musicianship development. Teaches students with varied musical preparation, using assessment results to strengthen instruction, curriculum, and retention. Builds productive relationships with **K to 12** educators, community arts organizations, prospective students, and performing arts colleagues. Active artistic practice includes conducting, vocal performance, piano supported rehearsals, concert programming, and interdisciplinary productions. Doctoral preparation, community college teaching, student advising, recruitment, faculty governance, and institutional service support meaningful learning and accessible music education.

EXPERIENCE

Associate Professor of Music, Choral Activities and Voice

August 2023 - Present

North Shore Community Arts College

Evanston, IL

Lead collegiate concert choir and chamber vocal ensembles while teaching applied voice, music theory, and aural skills. Oversee performance preparation, inclusive programming, assessment, advising, recruitment, curriculum review, faculty governance, and interdisciplinary arts collaboration.

- Directed **concert choir** rehearsals using score study, diction, vocal health, and expressive conducting.
- Taught **applied voice**, music theory, and **aural skills** through sequenced formative assessment.
- Programmed concerts combining historical repertoire, contemporary works, and diverse cultural traditions.
- Coordinated accompanists, venues, calendars, production needs, and student performance readiness.
- Built **recruitment** partnerships through school visits, festivals, workshops, and community events.
- Supported curriculum review, student advising, **faculty governance**, and **interdisciplinary productions**.

Instructor of Music, Voice and Choral Studies

August 2020 - July 2023

Lakeview College

Chicago, IL

Taught voice, **music theory**, and aural skills while conducting mixed voice ensembles and supporting student progression. Coordinated concert programming, retention conversations, performance partnerships, score resources, and interdisciplinary productions with theatre and instrumental faculty.

- Conducted mixed **voice** ensembles through rehearsal sequences linking technique, text, and balance.
- Adapted **applied voice** lessons for majors and non majors with varied preparation.
- Aligned theory, keyboard work, dictation, and sight singing with course outcomes.
- Designed concert programs spanning **genres**, periods, and contextual literature study.
- Supported **retention** through **mentoring**, degree planning, feedback, and academic referrals.
- Coordinated theatre and instrumental collaborations while maintaining organized score inventories.

Adjunct Voice Instructor and Choral Director

August 2018 - July 2020

Fox Valley School of Music

Aurora, IL

Provided individual and group voice instruction while directing collegiate and adult ensembles. Prepared varied singers for concerts and community performances through accessible rehearsal planning, piano support, integrated musicianship, and local arts relationships.

- Taught **voice** through breath coordination, resonance, diction, repertoire, and sustainable practice.
- Directed collegiate and adult ensembles with plans for varied reading experience.
- Prepared singers for concerts through section coaching, piano rehearsal, and run throughs.
- Integrated **aural skills** and theory into rehearsals for stronger independent preparation.
- Maintained music libraries through reliable score checkout and return practices.
- Built referral relationships with school teachers and community arts groups.

Graduate Assistant, Choral Conducting

August 2016 - May 2018

University Choral Program

DeKalb, IL

Supported supervised **choral conducting**, musicianship laboratories, concert production, and graduate research. Translated score analysis into practical rehearsal priorities while coaching undergraduate singers and evaluating progress with faculty guidance.

- Led supervised sectional rehearsals using score analysis and clear musical priorities.
- Coached undergraduate singers in diction, phrasing, sight reading, and ensemble skills.
- Prepared analyses covering form, text, harmony, vocal demands, and rehearsal challenges.
- Supported concerts through scheduling, music preparation, stage logistics, and accompanist coordination.
- Taught supervised musicianship labs in **aural skills**, rhythm, sight singing, and keyboard.

- Presented graduate research connecting choral pedagogy, repertoire, and inclusive ensemble learning.

PROJECTS

Inclusive Collegiate Choral Concert Series 📅 2024

Great programs begin with purposeful listening. Developed concert concepts connecting diverse cultural traditions, historical repertoire, contemporary works, student learning, and community performance.

Community Voice and Musicianship Workshops 📅 2023

Access changes who gets heard. Created workshops linking vocal technique, aural skills, healthy production, and welcoming ensemble participation for varied learners.

LEADERSHIP & AWARDS

- Emerging Conductor Recognition, Midwest Collegiate Choral Symposium, 2022
- Graduate Artistic Achievement Award, Northern Illinois University, 2021
- Faculty recognition for student centered ensemble leadership and community engagement, 2024

EDUCATION

Doctor of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting

2023

Northern Illinois University GPA: 4.0

DeKalb, IL

***Coursework:** Choral pedagogy, conducting practice, repertoire analysis, vocal literature*

Master of Music in Choral Conducting

2018

Northern Illinois University GPA: 4.0

DeKalb, IL

***Coursework:** Conducting, vocal pedagogy, music theory, aural skills*

Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance

2016

Illinois Wesleyan University GPA: 4.0

Bloomington, IL

***Coursework:** Applied voice, piano, music history, ensemble performance*

CERTIFICATIONS

- College Teaching Certificate 📅 2023
- Vocal and Choral Pedagogy Certificate 📅 2022

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Choral Conducting:** Concert choir, chamber singers, conducting practice
- **Vocal Instruction:** Applied voice, vocal production, vocal pedagogy
- **Music Theory:** Harmony, form, score analysis
- **Aural Skills:** Sight singing, dictation, rhythm
- **Piano Skills:** Piano accompanying, keyboard application, rehearsal support
- **Repertoire Planning:** Choral literature, repertoire selection, concert programming
- **Assessment Methods:** Formative assessment, practical assessment, learning outcomes
- **Curriculum Work:** Course development, curriculum review, seminars
- **Performance Production:** Rehearsal calendars, venues, stage logistics
- **Student Support:** Advising, mentoring, recruitment and retention
- **Community Partnerships:** K to 12 schools, school districts, arts organizations
- **Faculty Service:** Faculty governance, committees, professional development

SKILLS

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|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Choral Conducting | • Aural Skills | • Concert Programming | • Recruitment and Retention |
| • Vocal Pedagogy | • Piano Accompanying | • Student Learning Assessment | • K to 12 Partnerships |
| • Applied Voice | • Choral Literature | • Curriculum Development | • Community Arts Engagement |
| • Music Theory | • Repertoire Selection | • Student Advising | |

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Community Choral Reading Session Facilitator, 2024 - Present

- K to 12 Choral Educator Workshop Clinician, 2023 - Present
- Faculty governance and interdisciplinary performing arts collaboration

LANGUAGES

- English (Native)
- Spanish (Intermediate)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Work Status : Authorized to work in United States. No sponsorship required.

REFERENCES

AVAILABLE ON REQUEST