

Zachary Saunders

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Education

University of Georgia

Fall 2020 – Present

(In Progress) D.M.A. in Viola Performance, Minor Emphasis in Music Education (expected May 2023)

University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music

Fall 2011 – Spring 2013

M.M. in Viola Performance. Viola studies with Masao Kawasaki and Christian Colberg.

West Virginia University

Fall 2007 – Spring 2011

B.M. in Music Education. String pedagogy studies with Maggie Snyder and Andrea Houde.

Graduated magna cum laude.

Certifications

Suzuki Association of the Americas: Book 1-4 Violin/Viola Certificate, Every Child Can Certificate

CT State Board of Education: Provisional Educator Certificate (exp. 8/31/2030)

Relevant Experience

Graduate Teaching Assistant in Music Education. University of Georgia.

Fall 2021 – present. Provide instruction in Secondary Instrumental Techniques, String Methods, and serve as the lead teacher for the UGA String Project, as well as other administrative duties. Instructional responsibilities include both lesson delivery and course design. Winner of UGA's 2023 Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award.

Strings Teacher and Department Chair. Battlefield HS, Prince William County Schools.

Fall 2013 – Spring 2019. Responsible for the development of the orchestra program and for providing instruction in strings and in music theory. All ensembles consistently earned superior ratings at district assessment. Concurrently provided elementary string instruction at Alvey Elementary School.

In addition to state and national honors recognizing our performance standard (see below), the program grew from 90 students to over 200 during my six years of service. Hosted and chaired events including All-County Orchestra, Solo and Small Ensemble Festival, and District Orchestra Assessment. Coordinated fundraising activities providing over \$100,000 for our orchestra students.

Itinerant Strings Teacher. Office of Student Learning, Prince William County Schools.

Fall 2019 – Spring 2020. Responsible for providing instruction to over 200 students in 5th grade strings classes at Bennett, Bristow Run, Mountain View, and Penn Elementary Schools in Prince William County, VA.

Private Violin/Viola Instructor.

Fall 2013 – present. Provide private instruction to students in violin or viola. Many students successfully compete for honors groups such as All-County, Regional, and All-Virginia Orchestras.

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Additional Experience

- Guest Conductor/Clinician, PWCS Jr. All-County Orchestra *Spring 2016*
- Section Viola, Manassas Ballet Theatre Orchestra *Fall 2013 - Present*
- Substitute Viola, Greenville Symphony Orchestra *Spring 2022-Present*
- Principal Viola, CCM Orchestras *Spring 2012 - 2013*
- Section Viola, Spoleto Festival Orchestra, Italy *Summer 2011*
- Asst. Principal Viola, Brevard Music Center Orchestra *Summer 2010*

Significant Professional Accomplishments

- Winner, University of Georgia Outstanding Teaching Assistant *March 2023*
- BHS Philharmonia performs at Carnegie Hall *April 2019*
- Exclusive Orchestral Performance Presenter, VMEA State Conference *November 2017*
- 2016 Kennedy Center “Music in our Schools” Month String Orchestra Honoree *March 2016*