



Dianna Hochella

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MrsHochellaMusic.com

Passionate and creative Music Director with 21+ years of inspiring students through vocal music, theater, and world drumming. Known for building strong relationships, leading with heart, and bringing energy, organization, and vision to every performance and classroom. Seeking a secondary Vocal Music and Theater role to continue making a meaningful and lasting impact on students.

Music Educator

- ◆ Collaborative individual with **excellent communication and interpersonal skills** to build positive working relationships
- ◆ Open-minded and resourceful, **skilled in coordinating and scheduling events**
- ◆ Professional educator **committed to providing highly effective and creative learning environments** for students and members of the education community

Areas of Expertise:

- Knowledge of Standards & Assessments
- Teaching & Performing Experience
- Activity Coordination & Scheduling
- Communication and Rapport Building
- Integration of Technology
- Innovative & Multisensory Lesson Plans
- Creative Questioning

Education & Certification

January 2003	Master of Music in Vocal Performance GPA: 7.745 <i>Mu Phi Epsilon Alumni Chapter ~ Kapralova Society</i>	University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
January 2001	Bachelor of Music in Music Education (Piano and Voice Concentrations) GPA: 3.524 <i>Dean's List ~ Presser Foundation Scholar (2000-2001) ~ Sara Eikenberry Voice Scholar – Mu Phi Epsilon (2000-2001); ~ Jill Lobach Graybeal Music Education Scholar (1998-1999) ~ National Association of Teachers of Singing State Runner-up (1998) ~ Member of Music Educators National Collegiate Chapter ~ President of Mu Phi Epsilon Music Fraternity ~ Member of Pi Kappa Lambda National Music Honor Society</i>	Radford University, Radford, VA
Certification	State of Michigan: Secondary Music Education JQ (K-12)	

Experience

2010 - 2025

Clague Middle School, Ann Arbor, MI

Vocal Music/World Drumming/Drama Director

Taught approximately 130 students across 6th–8th grade vocal music, 7th–8th grade world drumming, peer link music, and directed a student-led Drama Club.

- ◆ Employed diverse, hands-on teaching strategies—including technology, recordings, and group work—to actively engage learners.
- ◆ Integrated music theory to build sight-singing and note-reading skills.
- ◆ Prepared choirs for MSVMA District Festival, consistently earning top scores. Annually coached students for State Honors Choir and Solo & Ensemble Festival.
- ◆ Founded a vocal practice club with high school mentors.
- ◆ Served as Secondary Vocal Music PLC Leader (2018–2022) and district music tech lead, supporting peers with Noteflight and Soundtrap training.
- ◆ Mentored new and student teachers.
- ◆ Selected as 2020 MSVMA State Honors Choir conductor (7–9 SSA), performing at Michigan Music Conference.
- ◆ Piano and Percussion Accompanist for MSVMA State Honors Choirs – 2025 TTB (7-9), 2023 SSAA (9-12), 2017 SSA (7-9)
- ◆ Founded a self-sustaining, all-inclusive Drama Club (2023–2025).
- ◆ Led PBIS Student of the Month recognition initiative.
- ◆ Chaperoned annual 8th grade trips to Washington D.C., Traverse City, and Sleeping Bear Dunes.
- ◆ Produced student-run talent show “Clague's Got Talent” (2012–2020).
- ◆ Supported high school choir programs (Skyline and Huron High Schools) at Interlochen Choir Camp and international tours to Italy (2012) and Ireland (2015).
- ◆ Revamped multicultural world drumming curriculum to include student compositions and public performances (Festifools parade). Collaborated with U-M Latin American Studies and EMU's HanSoRi to bring cultural music and dance experiences to students.

2007 - 2023

Michigan Opera Theater Children's Chorus (now Detroit Opera Youth Chorus), Detroit, MI

Assistant Director/Conductor

Taught and conducted the Detroit Opera Youth Chorus, an auditioned ensemble of ~50 singers aged 8–17.

- ◆ Provided rigorous vocal instruction focused on music literacy, ear training, and artistic expression.
- ◆ Led rehearsals, prepared students for concerts, and conducted fully staged children's operas.
- ◆ Used diverse teaching methods to actively engage students and offered hands-on experience in professional production settings.

Experience *(continued)*

2008 - 2010

Shrine Catholic Academy and High School, Royal Oak, MI

Vocal & General Music Teacher

Taught at the academy and long-term substituted for the vocal music program in the high school. Taught 7th grade music appreciation, 7th/8th grade mixed choir, 8th grade elite choir, and co-taught 8th grade musical drama. Co-moderate the 7th and 8th grade student council which includes weekly meetings and planning school events for students.

- ◆ Utilized a variety of teaching methods such as group and individual assignments, hands-on activities, readings, recordings, and other multi-media to actively engage students in their learning
- ◆ Introduced piano keyboards into the classroom as a part of the 7th grade curriculum to help students learn how to play and apply note reading
- ◆ Successfully prepared the 8th grade choir to perform at the MSVMA District IV Festival in 26 days of class, teaching them the solfege system of sight reading and working with them every day on their skill development, which resulted in the students qualifying for the state festival.
- ◆ Instituted new curriculum for the 7th grade music appreciation course which focused on the historical periods of music, and the history of music in general
- ◆ Integrated a multicultural hand drumming unit which taught different drumming beats from around the world while also teaching students how to read written rhythms

Professional Organization/Affiliation

MSVMA - Michigan School Vocal Music Association

Integration of Technology

Windows/Mac OS ~ Apple iWork Suite ~ Google Suite ~ Microsoft Office Suite ~ Weebly ~ Finale ~ Sibelius ~ Noteflight
Garage Band ~ Soundtrap ~ Logic Pro ~ iMovie ~ Final Cut Pro ~ Schoology ~ Power School (Teacher)

References

- ◆ Ché A., Carter, Principal, carterc@a2schools.org, (cell) 734-323-0057, (work) 734-994-2043 ext. 37207, Ann Arbor Huron High School, 2727 Fuller Rd., Ann Arbor, MI, 48105
- ◆ Abigail, Alwin, Director of Orchestras, alwin@a2schools.org, (cell) 734-395-2974, (work) 734-994-1976 ext. 31514, Ann Arbor Clague Middle School, 2616 Nixon Rd., Ann Arbor, MI, 48105
- ◆ Lindsay, CieChanski, Director of Vocal Music, ciechanl@a2schools.org, (cell) 734-945-9080, (work) 734-994-6515 ext. 55115, Ann Arbor Skyline High School, 2552 N. Maple Rd., Ann Arbor, MI, 48103