



Josh Lisner

Conductor

EDUCATION

Westminster Choir College - Bachelor of Music

- Dean's Scholarship Recipient
- Burns Alan Dobbins, Jr. Memorial Endowed Scholarship - Music Education Award
- Joseph Kovacs Estate Scholarship Recipient
- Four-time Dean's List Recipient
- Undergraduate GPA: 3.8
- Graduate GPA: 4.0
- Summa Cum Laude

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Edison High School - Director of Choirs and Vocal Music

2021 - Present

- Conducted rehearsals for 180 students, developing vocal technique, interpretive artistry, and ensemble cohesion to deliver unified, expressive, and engaging concert performances.
- Collaborated with world-renowned artists—including Voces8, the Westminster Choir, Donald Nally, Eric Whitacre, and Reena Esmail—and led performances at Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center, providing students with mentorship and exposure to premier professional experiences.
- Planned and led annual overnight competition trips for 100 students to locations including Virginia Beach, Disney, Universal, and Myrtle Beach, coordinating travel logistics and recreational activities that culminated in fulfilling musical experiences with choirs earning first-place, Superior, and Best in Class awards at all four locations.
- Served as Chief Executive Officer of the Edison High School Choir Parents Organization, directing all parent fundraising efforts and initiatives totaling over \$700K across five years, including planning, budgeting, and execution of major trips, festivals, and musical programs.
- Created and conducted the Edison Township Choral Festival, uniting over 350 students, alumni, and community members from rival high schools (Edison High School and John P. Stevens High School) into a single choral community.

Edison High School - Interim Director of Orchestras (Maternity Leave Position)

2024

- Instructed 3 orchestra classes (Freshmen Orchestra, Concert Orchestra, and Auditioned Chamber Orchestra) from February to June, developing and implementing lesson plans that catered to students' varying skill levels and aligned with curriculum standards all while handling Director of Choirs and Vocal Music responsibilities.
- Conducted diverse repertoire for performances, collaborated with Wind Ensemble students to perform symphonic orchestral pieces, and facilitated sectional rehearsals to enhance performance quality.
- Managed logistical aspects of the orchestra program, including scheduling rehearsals, organizing concerts, and coordinating with faculty and staff, while maintaining communication with parents and guardians.
- Mentored student leaders within the orchestra, fostering their leadership skills and musical development, and implemented assessment methods to monitor student progress and provide constructive feedback.

John P. Stevens High School - Student Teacher

2021

- Conducted virtual rehearsal of 150 students through the use of technology integration and differentiated instruction.
- Planned and facilitated community building activities within the choral department.
- Assembled virtual choir projects for concerts and showcases (Adobe Premiere, Adobe Audition).

PROFILE

Josh Lisner maintains an active career as a conductor, tenor, and professional musician. He is in demand in churches and professional choral settings as a soloist, chorister, and conductor throughout the Tri-State area.

Currently, he serves as Director of Choirs and Vocal Music at Edison High School in New Jersey. He one day hopes to conduct high-level symphonic repertoire at the collegiate and professional level.

CONTACT

WEBSITE:

joshlisner.com

EMAIL:

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Princeton Girlchoir, Westrick Music Academy – Conducting Fellow

2020–2021

- Conducted weekly virtual rehearsals of 45 students using technology and prerecorded lectures.
- Assisted conductor with preparation for virtual concerts and weekly rehearsal preparations.
- Facilitated conversations with students about performances and musical components.
- Enhanced recruitment through connections to local and national teachers, campus programs, and scholarships.

Bear Tavern Elementary School – Elementary General Music/Choir Practicum Student

2020

- Conducted and accompanied choral warm-ups and rehearsals both in-person and online.
- Instructed students in general music classes and Orff instrument ensembles.

Westminster Choir College Vocal Institute – Aural Theory Instructor and Conductors Assistant

2018–2020

- Instructed students on aural theory topics including rhythm, melody, sight-reading.
- Connected with students one-on-one to provide individualized instruction with written feedback and goals.
- Assisted program director in organization and planning of institute schedule, recitals, concerts, auditions, and classes.

PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

Princeton Pro Musica – Conducting Fellow

2025 – Present

- Conducted in subscription performances, leading a 120-person choir and orchestra in various repertoire including movements from Handel's *Messiah*, large scale Christmas Carols, and other symphonic style works (Forthcoming – 2025-2026 Season).
- Directed rehearsals on repertoire such as Bach's *Magnificat*, emphasizing rhetorical style, clarity of gesture, and expressive delivery.
- Facilitated a healthy and collaborative rehearsal culture through targeted warm-ups and ensemble-building practices that supported vocal health and musical engagement.
- When not conducting, participated in the tenor section while taking detailed rehearsal notes in preparation for weekly planning meetings with the Artistic Director.

Choral Arts Society of New Jersey – Assistant Conductor Intern

2024 – 2025

- Led rehearsals for a 50-member choir, preparing Mariana Martínez's *Dixit Dominus* and Mozart's *Missa Brevis in B-flat* in the artistic director's absence.
- Coordinated concert logistics with the executive board, managing spatial planning and program details.
- Provided rehearsal feedback on balance, diction, intonation, and musical interpretation.
- Led sectional rehearsals, refining vocal technique and ensemble cohesion.
- Served as tenor section leader, supporting the ensemble in rehearsals.

College Conservatory of Music: University of Cincinnati – International Conductor Training Program

2023 – 2025 (Summer Program)

- Conducted rehearsals and a performance of movements of Bach's *Magnificat* and Haydn's *Paukenmesse* with professional singers and instrumentalists.
- Attended lectures on score study and classes on rehearsal technique under the direction of Joe Miller and Brett Scott.
- Participated in masterclasses on conducting gesture with a professional choir and orchestra.
- Sang as a member of the ensemble for performances of Duruflé's *Requiem*, Mozart's *Requiem*, Poulenc's *Gloria*, and Mendelssohn's *Elijah*.

Philadelphia Symphonic Choir – Member

2022 – Present

- Featured in Netflix's film *Maestro*, directed by Bradley Cooper – a biographical film about Leonard Bernstein, winning a Grammy in the 67th Grammy Awards.
- Perform regularly with the Philadelphia Orchestra, contributing to choral-orchestral repertoire under the direction of Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Natalie Stutzmann, Joe Miller, Amanda Quist, Donald Palumbo, and Ryan Brandau.
- Appear at key venues, including Mary Anderson Hall (formerly Verizon Hall) in the Kimmel Center and Carnegie Hall.

The Crossing Choir – Summer Associate

2021

- Supported the artistic staff (Donald Nally and Kevin Vondrack) with rehearsal and performance logistics and planning.
- Provided performers with technology assistance on *Echoes Amplification Kits*, a new amplification system The Crossing designed for socially-distant singing.
- Corresponded with stage management, audio engineers, front of house, and artistic staff for effective rehearsals and performances.

Westminster Choir College Conducting Institute – Director's Assistant

2018–2020 (Summer Program)

- Assisted program director in the organization, facilitation, and planning of the institute's schedule, recitals, concerts, auditions, and classes.
- Acted as an Executive Assistant to eight high profile conductors (program instructors), ensuring all travel (including flights), meals, and logistical needs were met prior to, and during the program.

Princeton Pro Musica – Tenor Section Leader

2017–2018

- Performed high level symphonic repertoire including Monteverdi's *Vespers of 1610* and Britten's *War Requiem*.

Church of the Immaculate Conception – Tenor Section Leader

2017–Present

- Performed as a member of the choir and cantor for Catholic Mass Services.
- Conducted rehearsals of the full choir and the chamber choir.
- Conducted and accompanied sectional rehearsals.

SERVICE

Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity Rho Kappa Chapter – Elected Choir Master

2020–2021

- Elected as Choir Master for 2020-2021 academic year.
- Coordinated all musical activities within the organization including concerts, initiation, and community events.
- Coordinated a benefit performance fundraiser for the National Association of Negro Musicians, conducting the members of Rho Kappa in *Lift Every Voice and Sing*.

Rider University & Westminster Choir College Student Government Association – Senator at Large

2020–2021

- Proposed and supported legislation to enhance student life and campus experience.
- Selected by student peers and faculty to serve on the Academic Affairs, Student Finance, and Library Academic Affairs Committees.

Westminster Choir College Tutoring Center – Music Theory Tutor

2018-2019

- Assisted students weekly on homework and concepts discussed in class, spanning all levels of the Westminster Choir College music theory curriculum.

Westminster Choir College - Chapel Choir Tenor Section Leader

2017

- Conducted and accompanied sectional rehearsals.
- Organized attendance information and coordinated logistics for the ensemble and section.

MAJOR PERFORMANCES SUNG

Verdi Requiem	Ricardo Muti	Kimmel Center – Mary Anderson Hall	Philadelphia Symphonic Choir	2024
Puccini La Bohème	Yannick Nézet-Séguin	Kimmel Center – Mary Anderson Hall	Philadelphia Symphonic Choir	2024
Orff Carmina Burana	Tito Muñoz	Carnegie Hall	Orchestra of St. Luke's	2024
Mozart Requiem	Nathalie Stutzmann	Kimmel Center – Verizon Hall	Philadelphia Symphonic Choir	2024
Music of Leonard Bernstein	Yannick Nézet-Séguin	Lincoln Center –David Geffen Hall	New York Philharmonic Chorus	2024
Brahms Requiem	Yannick Nézet-Séguin	Kimmel Center – Verizon Hall	Philadelphia Symphonic Choir	2024
Bruckner Te Deum	Yannick Nézet-Séguin	Kimmel Center – Verizon Hall	Philadelphia Symphonic Choir	2023
Handel Messiah	Jeannette Sorrell	Kimmel Center – Verizon Hall	Philadelphia Symphonic Choir	2022
Bernstein Make our Garden Grow	Bradley Cooper	Maestro 2023 Film – Bradley Cooper	Philadelphia Symphonic Choir	2022
Pachamama Meets and Ode	Yannick Nézet-Séguin	Kimmel Center – Verizon Hall	Philadelphia Symphonic Choir	2022
The Hours (World Premiere)	Yannick Nézet-Séguin	Kimmel Center – Verizon Hall	Philadelphia Symphonic Choir	2022
Bach Saint Matthew Passion*	Joe Miller	Maltz Performing Arts Center +	Westminster Choir	2020
Ravel L'Enfant et les sortilèges	Stéphane Denève	Kimmel Center – Verizon Hall	Westminster Symphonic Choir	2020
Bach B Minor Mass	Yannick Nézet-Séguin	Kimmel Center – Verizon Hall	Westminster Symphonic Choir	2019
Whitbourn Annelies	James Jordan	National Cathedral – Washington DC	Westminster Williamson Voices	2019
Beethoven 9 th Symphony	Xian Zhang	Carnegie Hall	Montclair University Chorale	2019
Chichester Psalms – Tenor Soloist	Amanda Quist	Princeton University Chapel	Westminster Choir College - Vocal Institute	2018
Bach Magnificat & Howells Requiem	Joe Miller	Richardson Auditorium	Westminster Summer Choral Festival	2018
Britten War Requiem	Michael Pratt	Richardson Auditorium	Princeton Pro Musica	2018
Selections from Durufle Requiem	Amanda Quist	Princeton University Chapel	Westminster Choir College - Vocal Institute	2017
Monteverdi Vespers of 1610	Joe Miller	Princeton Theological Seminary	Westminster Summer Choral Festival	2017
Vivaldi Gloria and Mass Service	Heather Buchanan	Saint Peter's Basilica – Rome Italy	Montclair State University –Vocal Accord	2017
Selections from Mozart Requiem	Amanda Quist	Princeton University Chapel	Westminster Choir College - Vocal Institute	2016
Mozart Vespers	Richard Bjella	Carnegie Hall	Manhattan Concert Productions	2015

* Indicates concert was prepared but not performed due to Covid-19 Pandemic

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

NJACDA Summer Conference Attendee	2021-2025
Montclair State University Choral Festival	2021-2025
Combating Systemic Racism in the Music Classroom Seminar Attendee	2020
Westminster Choir 100 th Year Tour Chorister	2020
ACDA Eastern Division Conference Attendee	2020
Visions of Research in Music Education Conference Attendee	2019
Westminster Conducting Institute Attendee	2018-2019
Westminster Summer Choral Festival Attendee	2017-2019
NAfME National Convention Attendee	2017
Westminster Choir College NAfME Chapter Member	2017-2021
Westminster Choir College ACDA Chapter Member	2017-2021

OTHER SKILLS

Virtual Choir Projects (Adobe Suite)

Graphic Design

Website Development

Travel/Tour Coordination

Video Production

Concert Program Design

Music Categorization

Photography

Audio Recording Production

Program Note Author

Music Library Management

Zoom (large conference format)

REFERENCES

Dr. Heather Buchanan – Montclair State University

Director of Choral Activities

Dr. Ryan Brandau – Princeton Pro Musica

Artistic Director

Dr. Joe Miller – University of Cincinnati/Philadelphia Orchestra Symphonic Choir

Director of Choral Activities/Choir Master

Dr. Jason Vodicka – Westminster Choir College

Senior Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences & Professor of Music Education

Contact information will be furnished upon request.