**Forrest Wakeman**

Curriculum Vita

September 2022

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fwakeman@gmail.com

**EDUCATION**

D.M.A. - Piano Performance, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, 2015

Dissertation and Lecture Recital: “Stravinsky, the Piano, and the Genesis of *The Firebird*: a History and Performance Practice”

M. Mus. - Composition, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, 1996

Thesis: “For the Sake of Your Name” for orchestra, chorus, and baritone solo

B. Mus. - Piano Performance, Cornerstone University, Grand Rapids, MI, 1992

**PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

2019-present Calvin University, Grand Rapids, MI, Assistant Professor of Music

2017-2019 Calvin University, Grand Rapids, MI, Affiliate Professor of Music

1997-2010 – Cornerstone University, Grand Rapids, MI, Assistant Professor of Music

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Calvin University, Grand Rapids, MI**

*Assistant Professor of Music, 2019-present*

*Affiliate Faculty contract, 2017-2019*

*Adjunct appointment, 2011-2017*

*Courses taught:*

Music Theory I, II, III, and IV

Aural Skills

American Music (traditional and online versions)

Understanding and Enjoying Music (online version)

Music Technology

Digital Music Production

Songwriting Seminar

Private piano lessons

Private composition lessons

DCM: Worship, Technology, the Arts, and You

Foundations of Information Technology

**Cornerstone University, Grand Rapids, MI**

*Adjunct appointment, 2011-2017*

*Assistant Professor, 1997-2010*

*Courses taught:*

Music Theory I-IV

Keyboard Harmony I-IV

Pop Music Theory and Arranging

Jazz History and Theory

Introduction to Music Technology

Basic and Advanced Recording Studio Techniques

MIDI Sequencing

Computer Music Scoring

Songwriting

Orchestration and Arranging, alternate years

Music and Worship

Church Music Methods and Materials

Applied Piano

Music History III

**Aquinas College, Grand Rapids, MI**

*Adjunct appointment, 2012-2015*

*Courses taught:*

Counterpoint

Class Piano I-III

Twentieth-Century Techniques

Applied Piano

**Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI**

*Graduate assistant, 1994-1996*

*Courses taught:*

Class Piano I-IV

**Kellogg Community College, Battle Creek, MI**

*Adjunct appointment, 1995-1996*

*Classes taught:*

Class Piano I-IV

**SELECTED PERFORMANCES**

Solo Faculty Lecture Recital, Calvin University, February 2022

Guest Artist Series Recital, Cornerstone University, February 2021

Solo Faculty Recital, Calvin University, February 2021

Solo Faculty / Guest Series recital, Calvin University, October 2019

Solo Faculty / Guest Series recital, Calvin University, October 2018

Notes at Noon, Calvin University, September 2018

Cornerstone University “Music Matters” Lecture / Concert Series, February 2018

CD release concert, “Messes to Miracles,” May 2017

Faculty Recital, Aquinas College, May 2015

Faculty Recital, Aquinas College, March 2014

Faculty Recital, Cornerstone University, 2008

Grand Valley State University Bach Festival, Guest Artist, 2005 and 2003

Collaborative Pianist with Bruce Curlette, Clarinet, Grand Valley State University, 2002

Cornerstone University Piano Dedication Concert, 2001

**INVITED LECTURES / PRESENTATIONS**

*Minimalism and the Piano* – Piano Teacher’s Forum of Grand Rapids, 2022

*Good Enough for Jesus? Thoughts on Excellence for the Christian Musician* – Cornerstone University Music Matters Lecture Series, 2021

**ADJUDICATION**

Michigan Music Teacher’s Association Regional Semifinals, April 2022

**SELECTED COMPOSITIONS**

*Magnify –* contemporary worship song commissioned by Magnify Church to commemorate the church’s name change. Summer, 2020

*God’s Big Story* – contemporary children’s music project composed and produced for Blythefield Hills Baptist Church; available through all online digital music services, published by Blythefield Kids Music, 2018

*Messes to Miracles* – full-length original worship CD; available through all online digital music services, published by Forrest Wakeman Music, 2017. Single “Psalm 113” received national radio airplay on over 700 radio stations in Summer of 2017

Original music for four read-along children’s books – *The King’s Daughter*, *Saying Farewell*, *The Prize Cake*, and *The Red Boat*, published by CBH Ministries, 2010

Original congregational worship song *Count It All Joy*, commissioned by Blythefield Hills Baptist Church for four-month series studying the book of James, 2007

Original score for multiple episodes of *Down Gilead’s Lane*, a nationally syndicated children’s radio drama produced and distributed by Keys for Kids Ministries, 2006-2008.

Original music for numerous television and radio advertisements; clients include Zondervan / Family Christian Stores, Farmer’s Insurance, and Smiths Industries Aerospace.

Original musical *Lost in the City,* premiered by Blythefield Hills Baptist Church at the Rockford High School Fine Arts Auditorium for an audience of over 3000, 2003

Original musical *I.com,* premiered by Blythefield Hills Baptist Church at the Rockford High School Fine Arts Auditorium for an audience of over 3000, 2001

*Ritual Dance* for clarinet and piano – composed for and premiered by Dr. Bruce Curlette, 2000

**INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE**

Calvin University:

* + Original hymn arrangements for Calvin Institute of Christian Worship call to worship video produced in conjunction with Biologs, January 2023
  + Music Scholarship Coordinator, Fall 2020-present
  + Producer for *Not in Vain*, a worship EP featuring the 2021-2022 Calvin University Chapel Bands
  + Calvin Institute of Christian Worship – recording / mastering of audio for online
  + worship services during COVID, 2020-2021
  + Music department curriculum committee, 2017-2018
  + Researched and designed digital / electronic music lab upgrade, 2017-2018
  + Researched and designed digital composer station upgrade, 2017-2018

Cornerstone University:

Designed, maintained, and supervised MIDI and electronic music production

computer lab, 1996-2010

Faculty Senate, 2008-2010

Designed and led numerous chapel worship services, 2000-2010

Curriculum Committee for Bachelor of Music degree in Worship Arts, 2007-2008

Music department internship supervisor, 2000-2008

Campus Technology Strategic Planning Committee, 2001-2007

Produced Music Department sampler CDs, 2002 and 2005

Supervised and maintained university recording studio facility, 1996-2004

Presented a two-day lecture series on worship, university chapel, 2003

Authored course curriculum for Introduction to the Fine Arts for the Cornerstone

University Adult Continuing Education program, 2001

Designed curriculum for Bachelor of Music degree in Contemporary Christian

Music, 2000

**OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

**Symphony**

Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra, Principle Keyboard Sub, Synthesizer / Electronic Music Specialist, 2005-present.

The Grand Rapids Symphony hires me whenever they need a synthesizer player or have a concert that involves music technology. In addition to numerous traditional orchestral repertoire concerts, I have played synthesizer with the orchestra for the following major film scores live in concert:

*The Polar Express*, 2022

*Final Fantasy Distant Worlds*, 2022 \*

*The Princess Bride*, 2022

*Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*, 2019

*Home Alone*, November 2018 and 2019

Tim Burton’s *Nightmare Before Christmas*, 2018

*Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*, 2018

*Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*, October 2017

*Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone*, February 2017

Dreamworks Animation Live in Concert, February 2016

*Star Trek*, September 2015

*\*Featured soloist*

Battle Creek Symphony Orchestra, Principle Keyboard, 2016-2017 season

Holland Symphony Orchestra, Piano, 2013

West Shore Symphony Orchestra, Principle Keyboard, 2005-2006

**Musical Theater**

*Broadway National Tours:*

Waitress – Keyboard 2, 2019

The Sound of Music – Keyboard 2, 2018

Beautiful: The Carole King Story – Keyboard 2, 2018

Les Miserables – Keyboard 1, 2017

Wicked – Keyboard 4, 2017

Book of Mormon – Keyboard 1, 2016

Wizard of Oz – Keyboard 1, 2015

Irving Berlin’s White Christmas – Piano, 2014

Sweet Charity – Keyboard 2, 2013

Wicked – Keybaord 3, 2013

The Rat Pack: Live at the Sands – Keyboard 1, 2013

Annie – Keyboard 1, 2013

Shrek the Musical – Keyboard 1, 2012

Hairspray – Keyboard 2, 2011

Wicked – Keyboard 2, 2011

Dr. Doolittle – Keyboard 2, 2010

42nd Street – Piano, 2010

Victor / Victoria - Piano, 2008

Spamalot – Keyboard 2, 2007

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat – Keyboard 2, 2006

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat – Keyboard 2, 2004

Grease – Keyboard 1, 2002

Grease – Keyboard 2, 2000

**Opera Grand Rapids**

Opera is Lit! – collaborative pianist, 2023

Pirates of Penzance – collaborative pianist, 2022

Scalia / Ginsburg – orchestra musician, 2020

The Mikado – collaborative pianist, 2019

Opera at the GRAM – collaborative pianist, 2019

Opera at Founders – collaborative pianist, 2019

**Local and Regional Theater:**

A Tale of Two Cities – keyboards / assistant musical director, Magnify Church, 2022

Matilda – keyboard sub, Grand Rapids Civic Theater, 2020

Ride! Ride! - conductor / musical director, Blythefield Hills Baptist Church, 2018

You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown – piano, StageGR, 2017

My Fair Lady - conductor / musical director, Blythefield Hills Baptist Church, 2016

Cinderella - piano, Grand Rapids Civic Theater, 2010

Cinderella – piano, Grand Rapids Civic Theater, 2005

Oklahoma – piano, Cherry County Playhouse, 2003

Barnum – piano, Cherry County Playhouse, 2003

You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown – piano, Cherry County Playhouse, 2002

Evita - conductor / musical director, Grand Rapids Circle Theater, 1999

Gypsy - conductor / musical director, Grand Rapids Circle Theater, 1998

Merrily We Roll Along - keyboard, Grand Rapids Circle Theater, 1998

Nunsense - conductor / musical director, Grand Rapids Circle Theater, 1997

Passion - keyboard, Grand Rapids Circle Theater, 1997

Evita - keyboard, Cherry County Playhouse, 1996

Chess - keyboard, Grand Rapids Circle Theater, 1995

Into the Woods - keyboard, Grand Rapids Circle Theater, 1994

Pippin – piano, Cherry County Playhouse, 1994

Lunch – keyboard, world premiere, Cherry County Playhouse, 1992

**Camps**

Knollcrest Music Camp (Calvin College) – faculty, 2015-2019, 2021-2022

Courses taught / roles:

Music Major 101 course, choir and music theater accompanist

Music Theory Through Technology course

Class Piano

Popular Music

Blythefield Hills Baptist Church Teen Worship Arts camp, music director, 2000-present

Leadership roles:

Direct all-camp choir

Coach vocal ensembles

Arrange music for teen groups

Coach praise band and instrumental ensembles

Teach songwriting and technology classes

Hire house band and direct final production / worship service

Cornerstone University Summer Music Camp – faculty, 1997-2009

Courses taught / roles:

Intro to Music Theory

Intro to Music Technology

Jazz History and Theory

Popular Music

Private Piano Lessons

Chamber Music Coach

**Church**

Magnify Church (formerly Blythefield Hills Baptist Church), Rockford, MI. Music Director, 2000-present.

Leadership roles:

Recruit and mentor volunteer musicians (currently over 120 musicians across

three campuses)

Direct weekly rehearsals for worship services at main campus

Arrange music for orchestra, worship band, and vocalists as needed

Rehearse choir and orchestra for major events and large productions

Oversee technical systems for music performance (i.e. click tracks, backing

tracks, in-ear monitor systems, Mainstage setup for synth players)

Assist with music selection and worship service planning

**TECHNOLOGY PROFICIENCIES**

Research / Productivity:

Fluent with both Mac and Windows computer platforms

Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint

Adobe Dreamweaver, Photoshop, Audition, and Premiere

Google Docs and associated Google applications

Web-based Course Management:

Blackboard

Moodle

Music / Audio Production:

Avid ProTools

Avid Sibelius

Make Music Finale

Propellerhead Reason

Ableton Live

Apple Mainstage

Apple Logic Pro

Virtual and sampling instruments by Native Instruments, East/West, and Arturia

Digital mixing consoles by Yamaha, Avid, and Allen & Heath

**SELECTED REPERTOIRE**

Messiaen – Preludes pour Piano

Ginastera – Danzas Argentinas

Beethoven – Sonata Op. 53; Sonata Op. 31 No. 2

Bach – Italian Concerto

Brahms – Op. 118

Debussy – The Engulfed Cathedral; Pagodas; Image

Chopin – Ballades (all four); Scherzo in Bb Minor; Sonata in Bb Minor

Ravel – Jeux D’eau; Pavane for a Dead Princess

Gershwin – Rhapsody in Blue (piano solo version)

Stravinsky – The Firebird (solo transcription); Petroushka (solo version)

Copland – Variations for Piano

Prokofiev – Piano Sonata No. 2

Otte – The Book of Sounds

Adams – China Gates

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS / AFFILIATIONS (past and present)**

College Music Society

American Federation of Musicians \*

Society for Music Theory \*

Christian Fellowship of Art Music Composers \*

Gospel Music Association \*

Christian Copyright Licensing Inc. \*

Broadcast Music Inc. \*

SoundExchange Inc. \*

\*current membership

**PRINCIPAL TEACHERS**

Composition:

Dr. Richard N. Stewart, Cornerstone University

Dr. Curtis Curtis-Smith, Western Michigan University

Ramon Zupko, Western Michigan University

Piano:

Dr. Steven Zegree, Western Michigan University

Phyllis Rappaport, Western Michigan University

Deborah Moriarty, Michigan State University

Masterclasses:

John Browning, Beethoven Sonata Op. 53, Western Michigan University, 1995

**PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES**

Dr. Timothy Steele

Associate Professor of Music

Co-Chair of Music Department

Calvin College

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Dr. Richard N. Stewart  
Professor Emeritus

Cornerstone University

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Deborah Moriarty

Professor of Music

Chair of Keyboard Area

Michigan State University

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East Lansing, MI 48824

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Dr. Donna Bohn

Chair, Department of Arts and Humanities

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**PERSONAL REFERENCES**

Don Pearson

Campus Pastor

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Dr. Will Millar

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