

Heather Kirkconnell

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Education:

Diplôme de Perfectionnement: Conservatoire à Rayonnement Régional de Versailles, France, 2011-2013

College:

Bachelor's of the Arts in French: Oberlin College, May 2011

Bachelor's of Music in Performance (Organ): Oberlin Conservatory: May 2011

Minor in Historical Performance (Harpsichord)

Scholarships:

Harriet Hale Woolley Scholarship (2011-2012): A competitive scholarship for exceptional American musicians and artists completing an independent study and performance project in Paris, France. *Fondation des Etats-Unis* (15, boulevard Jourdan, Paris) A music studio apartment and cash award of 8 500 Euros

Beall Scholarship (2010): A regional scholarship for Presbyterian (USA) women studying the visual or performing arts, \$ 3 000 for studies

Edith P. Horner French Prize (2010): a scholarship for an outstanding student at Oberlin, awarded by the French department, Oberlin College, \$ 350

Work Experience:

Director of Music, First Congregational UCC, Elyria (2013-present): Provide vision, support and direction in all aspects of worship and music. Lead and grow the Chancel Choir through a particularly difficult transition period. Began new children's music ministry open to anyone in the community. Assist in planning weekly and special services, opportunities for musical and faith growth, and outreach to the community through music ministry to members and new concert series in support of the music program and food pantry.

Private Music Teacher (2010-present): Keyboard, general music and beginning vocal studies, provide weekly lessons focusing on healthy technique, musical expression and enjoyment of music

Organ Technician (Oberlin College, 2007-2011): Maintain Oberlin Conservatory's organs under the supervision of the Organ Curator. Extensive knowledge of organ building techniques, schools and trends.

English Instructor (Les Petits Bilingues, 2011-2012): Planned and taught small classes, promoted company to clients. Established a fun and engaging learning environment in which foreign language skills could develop naturally. Extensive experience working with groups of children ages 1-18.

Relevant coursework and skills:

Choral Conducting (2012-2013): Weekly two hour class focused on techniques of vocal warm-up, conducting, rehearsal and repertoire, for choirs of all levels. Valérie Josse, instructor, CRR de Versailles

Music Composition (écriture) (2011-2013): Successful completion of the *premier cycle* at the CRR de Versailles. Studies focused on problems and techniques of tonal music composition in various historical styles. Taught by internationally acclaimed composer Jean-Baptiste Robin

Oberlin College Choir (Fall 2007-Spring 2008, Spring 2009-Spring 2010): Auditioned 40-voice touring choir conducted by Hugh Floyd. 4-5 hours of rehearsal a week throughout the semester. Performances of *Peer Gynt* (sung in Norwegian) with the Cleveland Orchestra, large variety of sacred and secular repertoire from the sixteenth through twenty-first centuries, primarily sung in English, German Latin and Church Latin, French, Russian, German, and others.

Dalcroze Eurythmics (Spring 2011, 2012-2013, Summer 2014): Multiple courses exploring the teachings of Jaques Dalcroze. Focus on inner rhythmic development, improvisation, and internalization of musicality, musical structure, and other characteristics of tonal and post-tonal music

French Language: Lived in France for over two years, thoroughly fluent in language

Studies with:

Organ:

Mark Coffey (2003-2006)

David Boe, (2006-2008)

Marie-Louise Langlais, (2008)

Jack Mitchener (2009-2011)

Jean-Baptiste Robin (2011-2013)

Noël Hazebroucq, improvisation (2012, 2013)

Masterclasses: Olivier Latry (Paris), Pieter Van Dijk (Alkmaar), Theo Jellema (Leeuwarden), James David Christie (Oberlin)

Harpsichord:

Webb Wiggins (2006-2007, 2009-2011)

Lisa Goode Crawford (2011-2014)

References

Rev. Ruth Garwood, Former Interim Senior Pastor, First Congregational UCC, Elyria

Jean-Baptiste Robin, Former Professor of Organ

Rev. Mary Hammond, Former Employer, Co-Pastor, Peace Community Church, Oberlin