

Shannon McGinnis, DMA (she/her)

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CURRICULUM VITAE

EDUCATION

DMA, Accompanying & Chamber Music

University of Michigan

MM, Vocal Coaching and Accompanying

The Florida State University

BM *cum laude*, Piano Performance

Meredith College

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP & ADMINISTRATION

Associate Dean, Chicago College of Performing Arts (CCPA), Roosevelt University 2024-present

Provide academic, operational, personnel leadership for a professional college of approximately 500 students across three conservatories; lead budget development, faculty hiring, curricular oversight, accreditation, and production planning.

- Led comprehensive Theatre Conservatory curriculum revision that streamlined degree paths, reduced excess credit hours, and improved scheduling inequity.
- Co-chaired development of CCPA's 2025-2030 Strategic Plan (adopted September 2025), building faculty and staff consensus and aligning college vision with Roosevelt University's institutional plan.

Program Director of Opera, CCPA, Roosevelt University 2022-2025

Managed undergraduate and graduate opera performance programs, including budgets, relevant curriculum, and personnel.

- Re-designed Professional Diploma in Opera from a fully-subsidized performance-based, program operating at a net loss into a sustainable, tuition-generating certificate, focusing on individualized career planning and professional strategy.
- Expanded access by integrating undergraduate singers into mainstage opera productions previously reserved for graduate students.

Co-Chair, Interdisciplinary Conservatory, CCPA, Roosevelt University 2022-2024

Oversaw curriculum, budget, personnel, and assessment across Composition, Jazz & Contemporary Music, Music Education, and Core Studies.

- Guided faculty-driven overhaul of Core Studies curriculum: incorporated jazz, improvisation, and non-Classical musics into Musicianship curriculum; created combined "World Vernacular" history sequence for music and theatre students; introduced courses in wellness, business, and artist-as-citizen.

Co-Founder/Executive Leadership, Collaborative Arts Institute of Chicago 2010-present

Founded and built non-profit arts organization dedicated to advancing art song and recital performance; served as founding Executive Director (2010-2015)

- Scaled from no staff/no funding to permanent part-time staff and \$120,000 annual operating budget.
- Directed fundraising, grant writing, board development, and donor relations.
- As Director of Education (2015-2024), established Vocal Chamber Music Fellowship, a tuition-free program for emerging recital artists; alumni have gone on to prestigious training programs and professional opportunities.
- Built national reputation as Chicago's home for art song.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS & TEACHING

Associate Professor of Opera (tenured, on leave), CCPA, Roosevelt University 2024-present

Assistant Professor of Opera 2022-2024

Assistant Teaching Professor of Opera 2015-2022

- Led Professional Diploma in Opera program, in partnership with Chicago Opera Theatre.
- Directed and coached opera productions at undergraduate and graduate levels.
- Taught Language Skills (French, German, Italian, English) and courses in professional preparation.
- Designed and led graduate seminars on various topics, including *American Art Song since 1950*, *Folk Song and Identity*, and *Echoes of the Salon: Women Composers of 19th-Century Art Song*.
- Revitalized Opera curriculum to integrate undergraduate students into mainstage productions and expand partnerships with Chicago-based professional organizations.
- Mentored student singers and pianists who have gone on to advanced studies and professional careers.

Assistant Professor of Music/Coordinator of Accompanying, Truman State University 2003-2008

- Directed the accompanying scholarship program and managed graduate student and staff accompanist across the Department of Music.
- Taught studio piano and class piano for non-majors.

SERVICE & GOVERNANCE (selected)

- Higher Learning Commission Assessment Academy 2024-present
- Roosevelt University Undergraduate Council 2024-present
- Co-Chair: CCPA Strategic Plan Steering Committee 2024-2025
- Search Committee (Provost appointment):
 - Dean of College of Humanities, Education, and Social Sciences 2024
- Roosevelt University Senate 2020-2024
- Search Committee (Faculty nominee)
 - Dean of Chicago College of Performing Arts 2023
- Chair, CCPA Council (faculty governance body) 2020-2022

CREATIVE & PROFESSIONAL WORK (selected)

Collaborative Pianist - National Career

Perform regularly with internationally renowned vocalists at major venues across the U.S.

- Appearances at Ravinia Music Festival, Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, Carnegie Hall, Collaborative Arts Institute of Chicago/Art Song Chicago, and San Francisco Performances.
- World premieres by Errollyn Wallen, Iva Bittovà, Nicolas Bacri, Missy Mazzoli, Kyong Mee Choi, Matthew Aucoin.
- Recordings and live broadcasts on WFMT.
- Co-curated and performed in dozens of recitals, premieres, chamber performances with Collaborative Arts Institute of Chicago/Art Song Chicago.
- Regular contracts with Kentucky Opera, DuPage Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

PRESENTATIONS & PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES (selected)

- National Diversity Congress, Women in Leadership Higher Education Conference 2024
Speaker "*Creating Belonging: Advocacy, Agency, and Ambassadorship in the Performing Arts*"
- Boston University, College of Fine Arts 2024
Recital Curator and Guest Teacher: French Vocal Repertoire
- Florentine Opera (Milwaukee, WI) 2024
Recital Curator and Guest Teacher: *Wanderlust*
- North Park University (Chicago, IL) 2022
Recital Curator and Guest Teacher: *Women's Voices*
- University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music 2020
Guest Vocal Coach
- University of Michigan, EXCEL Lab 2018
Guest Presenter (with Collaborative Arts Institute of Chicago)

HONORS & RECOGNITION (selected)

- Roosevelt University Summer Research Grant 2024
- Roosevelt University Mentorship Award, Nominee 2023
- Roosevelt University Mentorship Award, Nominee 2022
- University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance Alumni Society 2018
Christopher Kendall Award for collaboration and entrepreneurship and significant community engagement (for Collaborative Arts Institute of Chicago)
- University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance Alumni Society 2017
Emerging Artist Award for Excellence in Music

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Board Service

- Art Song Chicago 2010-present
- Chicago Opera Theater, *ex officio* 2022-2024
- Fourth Coast Ensemble 2015-2018

Community Affiliations and Service

- Luminarts Cultural Foundation Classical Vocal Competition, adjudicator 2025
- American Opera Society of Chicago Competition, adjudicator 2020
- Chicago Board of Elections, Election Judge (General Election) 2020
- Chicago Sinai Congregation, member 2013-present

SPECIALIZED LEADERSHIP TRAINING

- Eastman Leadership Conference 2025
- Roosevelt University Equity Teaching Academy: Ensuring Student Success 2022
- Strategic Diversity Initiatives: Beyond Diversity 101 2021
- Enrich Chicago: Anti-Racism 2020