
Maurita Eberly Hanford

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EDUCATION:

Masters in Music, Piano Performance, May 1998, James Madison University (Harrisonburg, VA) *Summa cum laude*

Bachelor of Music in Sacred Music/ Piano, May 1995, Moody Bible Institute (Chicago, IL) (MBI is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and the National Association of Schools of Music)

Graduated *Cum laude* (3.7 GPA), *Who's Who in American Universities & Colleges*, and *Delta Epsilon Chi*

SPECIAL SKILLS:

- 18 years experience in piano teaching
- Extensive experience in piano performing ~ solo and accompanying
- Enjoys relating to people, especially children and youth
- Experience in preparing piano students for university music degree programs
- High rate student retention
- Kodaly Level I certified
- Good understanding of piano music, eras, genres, and styles
- Fluent in Italian and working knowledge of French

TEACHING PHILOSOPHY:

- Fostering a love for music
- Personalizing lessons to each student's interests, personality, and learning style
- Choosing motivational repertoire
- Developing well-rounded musicians through the study of rhythm, music theory, ear training, music history, and varied musical genres
- Helping students become confident, expressive, accurate performers
- Guiding the development of a safe technique for a lifetime of passionate playing

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

2001-2016

Private Piano Instructor (studio of 31 students, ages 6-25): Harrisonburg, Virginia

- Weekly one-on-one lessons
- Christmas and spring piano recitals at various church venues
- Community recitals, such as nursing homes
- Yearly shared masterclasses with piano studio of Paulo Steinberg, James Madison University, and Cory Leckrone of Harrisonburg
- Training for HMTA (Harrisonburg Music Teachers Association) Piano Festival & recitals
- Encouraged and prepared all high school seniors for their own or shared Senior Piano Recitals
- Extensive coaching of high school seniors preparing for college music auditions

- Saw students accepted into music degree programs at the following universities: James Madison University, Eastern Mennonite University, George Mason University, Florida State University, Wheaton College, VA Tech, and Belmont University
- Officer in HMTA ~ Treasurer ~ 7 years
- Students performed for the following master teachers: Dr. Paulo Steinberg, Dr. Lori Piitz, Dr. Gabriel Dobner, Marvin Blickenstaff, Dr. Andrew Willis, Dr. Rosita Mang, Dr. Lise-Keiter-Brotzman, Dr. Ludmila Lazar, Ieva Jokubaviciute, and Barbara Lister-Sink

2009-2016	As Principle Accompanist of the Shenandoah Valley Children's Choir (Harrisonburg, VA) <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Taught the SVCC's Advanced Musicianship Class, including advanced solfege and music theory•Conducted sectional rehearsals
2002-2003	Conducted summer children's choral camps in Palermo and Bari, Italy
1999-2001	Music missionary in Italy, serving under Virginia Mennonite Missions <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Helped establish private school of music•Taught music classes and private piano lessons to children, teens, and adults•Designed and developed Music Theory Worksheets in the Italian language•Directed adult and children's choirs•Translated American choral music into the Italian language for publication
1996-1998	Masters student in Piano Performance/Accompanying and Graduate Assistant at James Madison University (Vicki Berneking-Cavendish, instructor) <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Teaching assistant: Class Piano Instructor (under Dr. Patricia Brady, Professor Emeritus, James Madison U.•Assistant accompanying coach for Accompanying and Ensemble Class
1994-1995	Music Intern at First Presbyterian Church, Waukegan, IL (Dr. Elizabeth Naegele, director) <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Assistant children's choir director/pianist•Singer/pianist for adult choir Teacher's Assistant at Moody Bible Institute: Music Theory 201-202 <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Grading assignments•Private tutoring

PERFORMING EXPERIENCE:

2001-2016	Principal Accompanist for the Shenandoah Valley Children's Choir <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Rehearsal and performance accompanist for Concert, Treble, and Prep Choirs•Performed at local, ACDA, VMEA, and OAKE performances•Collaborated with the American Boychoir and the Washington Symphonic Brass Quintet•Played at the White House Christmas Tours•Performed for composers and choral directors such as Paul B. Bouman, Bob Chilcott, and Jean Ashworth Bartle•Featured accompanist on numerous CD productions•Directed SVCC's a cappella chamber ensemble
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Freelance collaborative pianist for vocal and instrumental lessons, recitals, guest masterclasses, competitions, and high school district choral festivals

2001-2003, 1995-1999 **Freelance collaborative pianist at James Madison University**

- Vocal and instrumental lessons, recitals, guest masterclasses, NATS competitions
- Student lessons, recitals and Musical Theatre Class
- Pianist for University Chorus' rehearsals and performance of *Elijah* (Mendelssohn)
- Accompanist for OAKE Children's Choral Camps ('98-'99)

2002-2016 Served on **church worship teams** in Harrisonburg, VA

1998-1999 **Accompanist** for Valley Playhouse and Bridgewater College musical productions
Once on This Island (Flaherty) and *Fiddler on the Roof* (Harnick/Bock)

Accompanist for women's choral group, *Daughters of Song* (Harrisonburg, VA)

1996-1998 **Masters student** in Piano Performance/Accompanying and **Graduate Assistant** at James Madison University:

- Audition and rehearsal accompanist: *Hansel and Gretel* (Humperdinck) and *Kiss Me, Kate*
- Performance pianist : *The Tenderland* (Copland) and *A Little Night Music* (Sondheim)
- Accompanist for JMU new student auditions
- Accompanist for JMU summer Vocal Arts Camp and Seminar

1995-1999 **Rehearsal and performance pianist** at Harrisonburg High School (Tommy Tutweiler, Director)

April 1996 Performed Piano Concerto no.2, mov.1 by Rachmaninoff with the Georgetown University Orchestra (Patricia Sparti, Conductor)

1990-1995 **Accompanist** at Moody Bible Institute: vocalists, instrumentalists, and choral ensembles

1991-1994 **Assistant Music Librarian**, Moody Bible Institute

- Musical Reference resource person
- Assistant Cataloguer of sacred music scores

PERSONAL INTERESTS:

Playing the pedal harp, cooking and baking, gardening, bird watching, walking, travel, and married life!

REFERENCES: Available upon request