

Lawana Idol Newell

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Summary of Qualifications

More than 25 years of experience in teaching, conducting, and performing. Professional experience in teaching voice, piano, vocal pedagogy, vocal literature, diction for singing, introduction to music classes, choirs, and theory on the college level. 30 years of experience in sacred music including development and supervision of graded children's choirs, youth and adult choirs and handbell ensembles.

Professional Experience - Teaching

Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Alva, OK, August 2014-present, Instructor of Music; August 2010-May 2014, Adjunct instructor of Voice; Classes taught include Private and Class Voice, Language Diction, Vocal Pedagogy, Vocal Literature, Music History, Music Form & Analysis, and Music in Life; served as Music Director for Musical Theatre production (Stephen Sondheim's *Company*, 2011)

University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK, 2007-2010; graduate assistant teaching Voice Class and Understanding Music; Opera Theatre, Stage manager, *Barber of Seville*; Assistant stage manager, *Rusalka*

Private Voice Studio, Enid, OK, 1983-2007; Students from this studio have continued studies at Columbia University, Interlochen Arts Academy, Notre Dame University, and the University of Central Oklahoma

Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Alva, OK, January 1990 – December 1994; Adjunct Instructor; Private and Class Voice, Private and Class Piano, Fundamentals of Music, Chamber Singers and Concert Choir Director (Fall 1994), Chamber Singers Accompanist

Walters State Community College, Morristown, TN, 1981-82, Community Services Division; Voice, Piano

Pfeiffer College, Misenheimer, NC, 1977; adjunct instructor of Voice

St. Joseph's Catholic School, Enid, OK, 2004-07; General Music for 4 year olds – 6th grade

Professional Experience – Sacred Music

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Enid, OK, 2008 – 2017; Organist

First Presbyterian Church, Enid, OK, 2002; Children's Choirs

First United Methodist Church, Enid, OK, 1993 – 2001; hired as Adult Choir Director then expanded program to include Adult Handbells, 3 Children's Choirs, and Youth Choir

Christian Church of the Covenant, Enid, OK, 1986 – 1992; Organist

Trinity United Methodist Church, Enid, OK, 1984 – 86, Choir Director

Central Christian Church, Enid, OK, 1983-84; Children's Choirs

First Presbyterian Church, Morristown, TN, 1982; Director of Music

First Parish Unitarian Church, Needham, MA, 1979-81; Organist/Choir Director

First Congregational Church, Milton, MA, 1977-80; Soloist/Section Leader

First United Church of Christ, Winston-Salem, NC, 1976-77; Music Director

Performing Experience

Solo

Enid-Phillips Chorale and Orchestra, Enid, OK; Soprano solo, *Passion According to St. John*, J.S. Bach
 Enid Symphony Orchestra, Enid, OK; *Four Last Songs*, Richard Strauss; Soprano solos from **Messiah**,
 G. F. Handel; Soprano solo, Symphony No. 2, Gustav Mahler; *Exsultate Jubilate*, W. A. Mozart.
 McLean Symphony Orchestra, McLean, VA; Soprano solo, Symphony No. 4, Gustav Mahler.
 Northwestern Oklahoma State University Choir, Alva, OK; Soprano solo, *Requiem*, John Rutter; Soprano
 solo, *Requiem*, A Thanksgiving for Life, Philip Ledger.
 Walters State Community College Choir with Knoxville Chamber Orchestra, Morristown, TN; Soprano
 solos from **Messiah**, G. F. Handel
 New England Conservatory Symphony Orchestra, Boston, MA; *Steal me, sweet thief*, from **The Old Maid
 and the Thief**, Gian-Carlo Menotti
 Pfeiffer College, Misenheimer, NC; Soprano solos from **Vesperae de solennes de confessore K. 339**,
 W. A. Mozart
 Charlotte Symphony Orchestra, Charlotte, NC; Soprano solo, **Chichester Psalms**, Leonard Bernstein

Opera

OU Opera Theatre, Norman, OK; *Miss Jessel* in **Turn of the Screw**, Benjamin Britten
 Baylor University Opera, Waco, TX; *First Lady*, **Die Zauberflöte**, W. A. Mozart
 New England Conservatory Opera, Boston, MA; Scenes – Despina, **Così fan tutte**, W.A. Mozart;
 Susanna, **Le Nozze di Figaro**, W. A. Mozart

Choral

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, Robert Shaw; **Ein Deutsches Requiem**, Johannes Brahms
 Boston Symphony Orchestra, Seiji Ozawa, Music Director, **The Seasons**, Franz Josef Haydn
 Boston Symphony Orchestra, Guest Conductor, Claudio Abbado, Symphony No. 2, Gustav Mahler
 Boston Symphony Orchestra, Guest Conductor, Gunther Schuller, **Mass in D**, Thomas Paine
 Boston Pops Orchestra, Arthur Fiedler, Music Director, Christmas at Pops
 Charlotte Symphony Orchestra, Jacques Brouman, Music Director, **Symphony of Psalms**, Igor Stravinsky
 Enid Symphony Orchestra, Douglas Newell, Music Director; Christmas Concerts
 New England Conservatory Chorus and Chamber Singers, Lorna Cooke de Varon, Conductor, **B minor
 Mass**, J. S. Bach, and other works.
 Pfeiffer College Concert Choir, Symphonic Choir, and Chamber Singers, Dr. Richard Brewer,
 Music Director; multiple concerts

Musical Theater

Gaslight Theater, Enid, OK; *Side by Side by Sondheim*, *Kiss Me, Kate*
 Morristown Community Theater, Morristown, TN; *The Apple Tree*, Eve; *Once Upon a Mattress*, Lady
 Larkin
 Winston-Salem Community Theater, Winston-Salem, NC; *South Pacific*, nurse
 Pfeiffer College, Misenheimer, NC; *Little Mary Sunshine*, Little Mary; *Godspell*, Joanna

Education

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA, Norman, Oklahoma – 55 hours toward DMA
Voice with Dr. Dolores Leffingwell
Vocal coaching with Jana Ernst and Dr. Thomas Bandy
Opera with William Ferrara

NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC, Boston, Massachusetts
Master of Music in Voice, 1979
Vocal Master Class with Eleanor Steber
Voice with Bernard Barbeau
Diction and vocal coaching with Terry Decima
Opera Theatre with David Bartholomew and James Gardner

PFEIFFER COLLEGE, Misenheimer, North Carolina
Bachelor of Arts cum laude, Church Music & Music Education, 1976
Voice with Richard Brewer
Organ with Stanley Scheer
Choral Conducting with Richard Brewer
Accompanist, Phyllis Curtin Vocal Masterclass

Additional Studies

Harvard University, University Extension Division
Italian
The Music of Mozart

Indiana University School of Music
Elly Ameling Vocal Masterclass

Private vocal studies

Joan Heller, Boston, MA
Kathryn Wright, Boston, MA
Jerry Helton, Rock Hill, SC
George Bitzas, Knoxville, TN