

Musical Director

Samantha Bennett

Professional summary

Experienced and highly skilled musical director with a passion for conducting, arranging, and leading rehearsals. Bringing over 11 years of expertise in directing orchestras and vocal performances in musical theater. Seeking a role with a major theater production where I can contribute to the musical vision and enhance performance quality.

Experience

Musical Director

January 2021 - Now
The Phantom of the Opera – National Tour /

- Conduct and rehearse a 30-piece orchestra, ensuring synchronization between instrumentalists and vocalists.
- Collaborate with directors, choreographers, and designers to maintain artistic integrity and enhance musical storytelling.
- Lead vocal coaching sessions to refine character interpretations and improve singers' vocal techniques.
- Arrange and transcribe customized orchestration for select performances, ensuring musical flexibility across venues.

Assistant Musical Director

June 2017 - December 2020
Les Misérables – Broadway /

- Supported the musical director in rehearsals and live performances, ensuring a polished and consistent production.
- Conducted performances as a substitute conductor, maintaining tempo and expressive dynamics throughout the show.
- Partnered with sound designers to fine-tune live vocal mixing.




Resident Music Supervisor & Vocal Coach

August 2014 - May 2017
Chicago Shakespeare Theater /

- Directed musical productions, collaborating with directors to ensure historically and stylistically accurate musical interpretations.
- Trained actors and singers in proper vocal technique, breathing, and projection for both contemporary and classical musical theater.

Guest Speaking

- "The Art of Conducting for Musical Theater" – Masterclass at Juilliard School (2021)
- "Behind the Baton: Orchestration for Modern Theater" – Guest Speaker at Berklee College of Music (2019)

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Education

Master of Music in Conducting

University of Michigan - Ann Arbor
United States, May 2017

Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance

Indiana University at Bloomington
United States, May 2014

Additional Training

- Advanced Conducting Techniques – Eastman School of Music (July 2018)
- Music Theory and Composition – Berklee College of Music (May 2016)
- Orchestral Arranging Masterclass – Juilliard School (September 2015)



Instrumental Proficiency

- Piano (Advanced)
- Clarinet (Intermediate)
- Trombone (Intermediate)

Skills

Orchestration and score arranging	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
Vocal coaching and performance direction	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
Advanced music theory	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
Transcription of scores	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>

Awards

-  Guest Conductor – National Symphony Orchestra Broadway Series (2022)
-  Outstanding Music Arrangement – Broadway World Awards (2019)