Scott Willis

Baritone

www.scottewillis.com

CURRICULUM VITAE

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*Contact Information*

 518 Lullwater Road

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 sewillis.88@gmail.com

*Education*

**D.M.A.** University of Alabama, Vocal Performance, Tuscaloosa, AL, 2019

* GPA: 4.0, Graduate Teaching Assistantship in voice; recipient of UA Opera Theatre Scholarship; Stakley Family Opera Scholarship; and Paul Houghtaling Voice Scholarship; Vocal studies with Dr. Paul Houghtaling; comprehensive opera theatre curriculum (stage craft, role preparations, improvisation, movement, acting, stage makeup); Dissertation Title: Taming the Tension: Addressing Upper Body Issues for the Singer

**M.M.** East Carolina University, Vocal Performance, Greenville, NC, 2013

* GPA: 3.84, Graduate Assistantship in vocal studies with Professor John Kramar; Studies on opera and art song history; extensive research on German Lieder; thesis research on Gerald Finzi’s *Earth and Air and Rain*.

**B.M.** Middle Tennessee State University, Vocal Performance, Murfreesboro, TN, 2011

* GPA: 3.7, Cum Laude; vocal music scholarship; vocal studies with Dr. Christine Isley-Farmer; four-year study in Opera Workshop under Dr. Raphael Bundage; The National Society of Collegiate Scholars award recipient.

*Teaching/Conducting Experience*

**Berry College** Rome, GA

Artist Affiliate in Voice/Director of Opera Workshop (August 2019 – Present)

* Instructor of applied voice lessons for both music majors and non-majors with emphasis on classical and musical theatre styles; Director/Conductor of Opera Workshop; Instructor of Class Voice; Music Director/Conductor for Berry College Theatre musical productions. Oversees opera budget, organization of performance venues/schedules.

**University of Tennessee at Chattanooga**  Chattanooga, TN

Adjunct Professor of Voice (August 2023 – Present)

* Instructor of applied voice lessons for both music majors and non-majors; Assist voice majors and minors with repertoire assignments, diction, and preparation for voice juries.

**Northside Presbyterian Church** Chattanooga, TN

Music Director (May 2018 – Present)

* Responsibilities include directing the chancel choir in weekly rehearsals and services, training the choir in classical choral techniques, providing instrumental music for weekly services and additional holiday services, organizing special musical guests to enhance worship services, creating a yearly music budget and executing responsibilities within the set budget.

**Southern Adventist University** Chattanooga, TN

Adjunct Professor of Voice (January 2019 – December 2021)

* Instructor of applied voice lessons for both music majors and non-majors; Assist voice majors and minors with repertoire assignments, diction, and preparation for voice juries.

**Motlow State Community College** Smyrna, TN

Adjunct Professor of Music Appreciation (August 2015 – May 2019)

* Instructor of online and on-campus Music Appreciation courses for non-music majors.

**Alabama Graduate Teaching Assistant** Tuscaloosa, AL

Graduate Teaching Assistant (August 2017 – May 2019)

* Instructor of Class Voice for non-music majors as well as voice instructor for both music majors and non-majors; Guest/Substitute Instructor for undergraduate diction course; Lectures and presentations on Latin, German, and French diction (2018-2019).

**Tennessee State University**  Nashville, TN Adjunct Professor of Voice (August 2014 – May 2017)

* Taught applied voice lessons and Survey of Diction to voice majors and minors; Instructor of Music Appreciation courses for non-music majors; Assisted voice majors and minors with repertoire assignments; studio classes; diction and preparation for voice juries; Organized and assisted in preparation of guest masterclasses.

**Oak Hill Day Camp** Nashville, TN

Theatre Director (May 2014 – August 2014 & May 2015 – August 2015)

* Facilitated and directed stage productions for each session involving 150 students from ages 2-13; Instructed students on the fundamentals of theatre and music terminology enabling them to develop their own small play and engage in self-expression through art; Planned curriculum appropriate for students of all ages and backgrounds.

**East Carolina University, Graduate Assistant** Greenville, NC

Voice Instructor/Teacher Assistant (August 2011 – May 2013)

* Worked with a studio of beginning and intermediate voice students; Organized lesson plans and repertoire for students; Conducted studio classes providing feedback for each individual student; Assisted in teaching Italian diction courses; Served as assistant for classes such as History of Rock-n-Roll and Class Voice; Operated as a recording technician.

**New York State Summer School of the Arts** Fredonia, NY Music Counselor(Summer 2012/2013)

* Assisted students in daily performance preparations and served as assistant to faculty members throughout daily rehearsals; Organized special events for students throughout the summer; Directly supervised students in dormitories and during scheduled group activities; holding informational meetings with students as needed; enforcement of rules and regulations as established by State Education Department and Assistant Director for Administration.

**Tennessee Governor School for the Arts** Murfreesboro, TN

Music Counselor (June – July 2009)

* Worked with hundreds of students alongside faculty and staff; Assisted students with musical rehearsals and preparation; Supervised students in the dormitory; helped with student adjustment and discipline; and organized daily school operations and productions; Communicated effectively with faculty and students in a timely manner; made an absolute commitment to enforce school rules and regulations which were designed to create healthy, safe, and positive learning and living environments for gifted and talented youth.

*Musical Direction Experience*

Responsibilities for the following productions included role preparation, coaching for leading characters, chorus master, and orchestra conductor.

*Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder*

Berry College, March 2024

*Amahl and the Night Visitors*

Berry College, December 2023

*Into the Woods*

UTC, March 2023

*Die Fledermaus*

Berry College, January 2023

*Bright Star*

Berry College, October 2022

*Chicago*

Berry College, April 2022

*Godspell*

Heritage High School, March 2022

*Trial by Jury*

Berry College, January 2022

*Matilda: The Musical*

Heritage High School, December 2021

*Footloose*

Riverdale High School, March 2017

*Oklahoma!*

Springhouse Theatre, September 2016

*Beauty and the Beast*

Riverdale High School, March 2016

*Bring It On: The Musical*

Arts Center of Cannon County, June 2015

*My Way: A Musical Tribute to Frank Sinatra*

Arts Center of Cannon County, December 2013

*Stage Directing Experience*

Responsibilities for the following productions included stage direction, character development and analysis, producing, and stage managing.

*Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder*

Berry College, March 2024

*Amahl and the Night Visitors*

Berry College, December 2023

*Die Fledermaus*

Berry College, January 2023

*Trial by Jury*

Berry College, January 2022

*Don Giovanni*

Opera Tennessee, October 2019

*Scenic Adventures*

University of Alabama Opera Workshop, April 2018

‘Omelette Quartet’ from Bizet’s *Le docteur Miracle*

*High School Musical 2*

Arts Center of Cannon County, July 2011

*Administrative Experience*

**Chattanooga Music Academy** Chattanooga, TN

Founder and Executive Director (November 2020 – Present)

* Serves as chief administrative officer to realize CMA’s vision, fulfill its mission, and achieve its goals for success. Oversees major aspects of CMA’s operations including development, financial management, public relations, and supervision of employees.

**Tennessee Chamber Chorus**  Cleveland, TN

Executive Director (August 2015 – December 2017)

* Develop, coordinate, and execute a comprehensive strategy of financial development; Maintain an ongoing relationship with arts peers in the community; cultivating both the audience and community; Oversee short and long-range planning, engaging board and staff during board meetings; Oversee marketing by publicizing on social media and chorus website the activities and latest news of the organization.

*Training Programs*

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| --- | --- | --- |
| University of Alabama Opera Workshop * Improvisation, Dance/Movement classes, Stage combat, stage makeup, yoga, and music business classes
 | 2017 | Tuscaloosa, AL |
| Harrower Opera Workshop* Movement classes, stage combat, masterclass with Jennifer Larmore
 | 2017 |  Atlanta, GA |
| Druid City Opera Workshop* Dance classes, stage combat, audition techniques, the business of singing, acting classes (Laban technique) yoga, and master classes
 | 2016 |  Tuscaloosa, AL |
| Northwest Opera in Schools, Etc.* Role preparation, stage makeup, scenic/set work
 | 2015 |  Seattle, WA |
| Vancouver Coaching Experience* Role preparation
 | 2014 |  Vancouver, B.C. |

*Awards and Honors*

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| Stakley Family Scholarship | 2018 |
| Semi-Finalist, Orpheus National Competition | Middle Tennessee State University, 2013 |
| Various Awards, Collegiate and Graduate Level Musical Theatre and Classical Categories, NATS. |  Tennessee, 2010 |
| Second Place, Grace Moore Vocal Competition | Middle Tennessee State University, 2009 |

*Professional Affiliations*

National Association of Teachers of Singing

College Music Society

National Opera Association

The National Society of Collegiate Scholars

*Additional Skills and Experience*

Basic Proficiency on Piano

* Vocalizing private voice students; perform basic repertoire for lessons; teach choral parts to ensembles

Scott Willis, baritone

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| Roles Performed  |
| Reverend Howell | *Give Me Room!* (Premiere) | Opera Tennessee |  2020 |
| Alfio | *Cavalleria rusticana* | Opera Tennessee | 2019 |
| Riff | *West Side Story* | University of Alabama Opera Theatre  |  2018 |
| Somnus | *Semele* | University of Alabama Opera Theatre | 2018 |
| David | *A Hand of Bridge* | University of Alabama Opera Theatre |  2017 |
| John Sorel | *The Consul* | Opera Tennessee | 2017 |
| Marquis de la Force  | *Dialogues des Carmélites*  | Harrower Opera Workshop | 2017 |
| President Melrose | *Unjust Judge* (Premiere) | Lipscomb University  | 2017 |
| Marcello | *La Bohème*  | Capitol City Opera | 2016  |
| Caractacus Potts | *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* | Arts Center of Cannon County  | 2016 |
| Sergeant Sulpice  | *The Daughter of the Regiment*  | Northwest Opera in Schools, Etc.  | 2015 |
| Bert | *Mary Poppins* | Arts Center of Cannon County | 2015 |
| Dr. Neville Craven  | *Secret Garden* | Arts Center of Cannon County | 2014 |
| Vater | *Hänsel und Gretel* | Vancouver Summer Opera Workshop  | 2014 |
| Tim  | *Insectaphobia* (Premiere)  | East Carolina Opera Theatre  | 2013 |
| Jason MacFarlane | *Lizzie Borden* | East Carolina Opera Theatre | 2012 |
| Guglielmo | *Cosí fan tutte* | East Carolina Opera Theatre | 2012 |
| Mr. Gobineau | *The Medium* | East Carolina Opera Theatre | 2011 |
| Count Almaviva | *The Marriage of Figaro* | MTSU Opera Theatre | 2010 |
| Tateh | *Ragtime* | MTSU Opera Theatre | 2009 |
| Sweeney Todd | *Sweeney Todd* | MTSU Opera Theatre | 2008 |
| Concert Engagements  |
| Soloist | Handel’s *Messiah* | Southern Adventist University | 2023 |
| Soloist | Mozart’s *Coronation Mass*  | Chattanooga Girls Choir | 2022 |
| Soloist | Copland’s *Eight Poems of Emily Dickson*  | Chattanooga Symphony & Opera  | 2021 |
| Soloist | Handel’s *Messiah* | Collegedale Academy | 2021 |
| Soloist | Brahm’s *Ein Deutsches Requiem*  | East Tennessee Symphony Orchestra  | 2019 |
| Soloist | *Diamonds are a Girl’s Best Friend* | Tuscaloosa Symphony Orchestra | 2019  |
| Soloist | Handel’s *Messiah* | First Christian Church (Chattanooga) | 2017 |
| Soloist | Bach’s *B Minor Mass* | Nashville Symphony | 2017 |
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| Teachers  | Coaches | Directors  | Conductors  |
| Paul Houghtaling  | Laurie Rogers  | Dwight Coleman  | Laurie Rogers |
| Corey McKern | Christie Lee | Linda Lister | Rolando Salazar |
| John Kramar | Amy-Tate Williams  | John Hoomes | Caleb Harris  |
| Christine Isley-Farmer | Luke Housner  | John Kramar | William Boggs  |
|  | John Keene  | Raphael Bundage  | Cameron Labarr |
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| Education and Training Programs |
| Harrower Opera Workshop 2017  |
| Druid City Opera Workshop | 2015 |
| Northwest Opera in Schools, Etc. | 2015 |
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| D.M.A., Vocal Performance, University of Alabama, 2019 |
| M.M., Vocal Performance, East Carolina University, 2013 |
| B.A., Vocal Performance, Middle Tennessee State University, 2011 |

**References**

Sara Snider Schone

Executive Director – Opera Tennessee

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Dr. Paul Neal

Director of Choral Activities and Head of Voice

Berry College

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Dr. Paul Rader

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